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**MEETING MINUTES**

**TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2019  
7:00 P.M.  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF VILLAGE HALL**

- Members Present: Chair Libby Braband  
Commissioner Issac Gaetz  
Commissioner Benjamin Schmitt  
Commissioner Randall Tyner  
Commissioner Nathan Kebede  
Commissioner Jill Hayes  
Commissioner Andrew Levy
- Members Absent: None
- Staff Present: Brigitte Berger-Raish, P.E., Public Works Director  
Dan Manis, P.E., Village Engineer  
Dan Smith, P.E., Engineering Assistant  
Kyle Murphy, Police Chief
- Guests Present: Jeff Martin, 732 Park  
Denton Darnutzer, 728 Park  
Glenn Warning, 712 Park  
Susan Karol, 712 Park  
Veronica Leitner, 1327 Central  
Merele Gleeson, 1325 Central  
Mike Zarski, 2116 Birchwood  
Julie Gustafson, 720 Park  
Patti Perry, 715 Park  
Mike Perry, 715 Park  
Martha Lettner, 1320 Central  
Kathleen Lettner, 1320 Central  
Jeff Axelrod, 631 Central

**I. CALL TO ORDER.**

Chair Braband called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and took role of the Commissioners.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES; TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING OF MAY 23, 2019**

Chair Braband directed the Commission's attention to the draft minutes of the Transportation Commission meeting of May 23, 2019.

Commissioner Gaetz moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tyner. There were no changes noted to the minutes. **The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.**

**III. PARKING RESTRICTION CHANGES TO THE 700 BLOCK OF PARK AVENUE AND 1300 BLOCK OF CENTRAL AVENUE**

Village Engineer, Dan Manis provided a summary of the existing parking restrictions on the 700 block of Park Avenue and the 1300 block of Central Avenue and outlined the process in the Village Code for residents to petition the Transportation Commission for resident permit parking restrictions. Petitions received from both blocks met the required number of signatures. The 700 block of Park had previously submitted a petition requesting permit parking in 2007 and 2008 but was not successful at that time. Mr. Manis summarized current parking usage on the two streets, based on observations by the Police department. Staff recommended adding permit parking to both blocks and consolidating two different restrictions on the 1300 block of Central by eliminating the existing "No Parking 8am to 10am Monday thru Friday" and maintaining the "2 Hour Parking 8am to 6pm Monday thru Saturday" for consistency on the block.

Commissioner Gaetz asked if there was any opposition to the parking changes. Mr. Manis replied that notifications were sent to adjacent blocks, and that no comments had been received.

Commissioner Schmitt noted that there were multiple signatures for some households, and Mr. Manis stated that the petition was counted on a per address basis.

Chair Braband asked if there were any other questions from the Commission or from the public.

Chair Braband asked if separate motions were needed with regard to the changes on both blocks, and Ms. Berger-Raish replied that there would need to be two motions.

Jeff Martin, 732 Park, stated that the 800 block of Park has permit only parking and an alley, and has to move two cars around to get a car out of the garage. He has also received tickets for parking on the street in front of house.

Mike Perry, 715 Park, missed petition when it was brought around. Has parking issues when his son comes to town, and wanted to voice his support for the changes.

Patti Perry, 715 Park, has to search streets including across Green Bay Road to look for parking. Would like permits like the other streets in the area.

Susan Karol, 712 Park, shares a driveway with two other neighbors, in some cases has to call neighbors to have cars moved to get a car out of their garage. Not being able to park on the street in front of their home can create issues at times.

Denton Darnutzer, 728 Park, his 16-year-old just got a car, and says a lot of traffic from Green Bay Road travels on Central. He once got into an accident backing out of his driveway.

Merle Gleeson, 1325 Central, noticed that postal workers move their cars every two hours. Visitors have had to park at the library lot because it is the nearest available.

Commissioner Gaetz reviewed the historical minutes and noticed that some of the same names are on both petitions.

Kathleen Lettner, 1320 Central, they have 5 cars and have been ticketed multiple times.

Commissioner Schmitt asked what the protocol is for asking for permits, and Mr. Manis responded that he believes residents get permits based on the number of vehicles registered, and that there is no fee.

Commissioner Tyner asked about visitors, and Mr. Manis responded that visitor passes are available. Commissioner Gaetz asked if the 2-hour restriction for non-permit holders would remain, and Mr. Manis confirmed.

Chair Braband asked if there was any additional comments.

Chair Braband read the motion to change the 1300 block of Central to a 2-hour restriction from the existing 8 am to 10 am restriction. Commissioner Gaetz moved to approve the motion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tyner. **The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.**

Chair Braband read the motion to provide by-resident parking on the 1300 block of Central Avenue and 700 block of Park Avenue. Commissioner Tyner moved to

approved the motion. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gaetz. **The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.**

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeff Axelrod, 631 Central, inquired about the current status of the Master Bike and Active Transportation Plan. Mr. Axelrod asked that the Commission direct the board to resume work on the Master Bike and Active Transportation Plan. Ms. Berger-Raish provided an update, stating that the Village Manager's office communicated with members of Bike Wilmette, and that due to current workload, the decision was made to postpone further discussion on the Master Bike and Active Transportation Plan until the first quarter of next year (2020). Mr. Axelrod commented that there have not been any formal communications regarding the Master Bike and Active Transportation Plan. Ms. Berger-Raish stated the Village Manager's office will determine the next communication. Mr. Axelrod asked if staff had directed the consulting engineers to avoid specific roads for proposed bike routes. Ms. Berger-Raish added that staff acts as a resource to hired consultants and provide information for design decisions.

Chair Braband asked if there was any additional public comment, there was none.

#### **V. OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Manis provided an update regarding the speed radar signs and ComEd grant application. The grant application was unsuccessful, but Staff would proceed with purchasing the speed radar signs with traffic calming funds per the motion approved at the May 23, 2019 meeting. The speed signs would be deployed on a rotating basis throughout the Village. Commissioner Gaetz asked when the signs would be purchased, and Mr. Manis said the purchase would occur before the end of the year. Mr. Manis also stated that Staff was working on a request for proposals for traffic calming for the Kenilworth Gardens neighborhood. Locust Road is on schedule for mid-November final completion and a mid-block rapid flashing beacon is proposed to be installed. Mr. Manis also discussed proposed improvements for Wilmette Avenue and Central Avenue, which include pedestrian and traffic safety improvements. The Master Bike and Active Transportation Plan is in draft form and ready for public review, which will be presented at a future meeting. No formal action was taken.

#### **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Manis presented an informational email regarding Northwestern event parking on the 100 block of 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Possible Evanston zoning changes could potentially change usage of Welsh-Ryan Arena. The allowed maximum capacity would be reduced from 10,000 to 7,000, with professional events allowed. Mr. Manis stated that if the proposed changes by Evanston were adopted and created impacts in the neighborhood, they would be presented to the Commission. No formal action was taken.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Gaetz moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hayes. **The motion carried.** No further discussion occurred on the motion.

The meeting was thereafter adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Prepared by D. Smith