

Minutes of the **Transportation Commission** Meeting Held on Thursday,
March 16, 2000 at **7:30 p.m.** in the **Training Room** of the Village Hall,
1200 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois 60091

Members Present: Neil Ferrari
Andrew Hansen
Alan Swanson, Chairman
Roger Teal

Members Absent: Barbara Lusky
Amy Panici

Staff Present: Robert S. Lewis, Village Engineer
Linda Reilley, Engineering Assistant
George Carpenter, Chief of Police
Don George, Parking Enforcement Officer
Officer Julie Parisi, Traffic Coordinator

Staff Absent: ---

Also Present: 17 residents representing the 400 block of
Linden, the 500 block of Central, and the 500 &
600 blocks of Fifth Street

1. **Approval of the February 15, 2000 Minutes**

Chairman Swanson called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. and called the roll. **Commissioner Ferrari** moved to approve the minutes. **Commissioner Hansen** seconded the motion. *The February 15th minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.*

Chairman Swanson noted that a quorum was present, and reminded those present that Commissioner Gatto had stepped down from the Commission, and that *a new Commissioner, Steve Schlickman*, will be introduced at the April meeting.

2. **Presentation of Bicycle Task Force February minutes and pending Task Force issues**

Chairman Swanson recognized **Linda Reilley** who reported that the Bicycle Task Force has set a May 28th date for its Memorial Day bicycle tour. **Ms. Reilley** noted that the theme chosen for the tour is “the history of Wilmette parks”, but the route has not yet been determined. The Task Force will be working with Boy Scout Troop Five. The February and March minutes will be reviewed at the April meeting.

3. **Review “P” permit parking on Fifth Street between Central & Linden**

Chairman Swanson provided a history of the parking issues in the Fifth & Linden area. **Chairman Swanson** informed those present that the Commission had looked at several ways to increase the amount of parking in the area; and as a result, the “P” permit parking zone was approved in April 1999. **Chairman Swanson** recognized **Robert S. Lewis** who added that the implementation of the changes had been delayed until September due to construction in the Fifth & Linden area in the Spring. **Chairman Swanson** explained that the Commission had met with the neighborhood again in November 1999. After considerable discussion at the November meeting, the parking enforcement officer was directed to conduct a parking survey and report the results at the March 2000 meeting.

The **Chairman** recognized parking enforcement officer, **Don George**, who reported that the total parking capacity of the 600 block of Fifth Street is **14 spaces**. Of these 14 spaces, seven spaces are in front of the town houses. **Officer George** informed the Commission that there is a 50% usage rate coupled with an increase in parking in this area.

Officer George noted that parking spaces on the 500 block of Fifth Street are 100% occupied; and parking spaces on the 400 block of Linden, in front of both apartment buildings, are also 100% occupied.

Chairman Swanson asked if the CTA parking lot is utilized. **Linda Reilley**, engineering assistant, reported that of the 18 available spaces, 17 parking permits have been sold.

Commissioner Teal asked for clarification on the two types of permits—the “P” permit and the “N” permit. **Chairman Swanson**

explained that the “**P**” *permit* applies to Fifth Street from Central to the 400 block of Linden to the alley and on Linden Avenue from Fifth Street to 420 Linden; and the “**N**” *permit* applies to the 400 block of Fifth Street just south of the alley.

Chairman Swanson thanked the residents for attending the meeting and invited their participation. Residents from the **town homes on Fifth Street** (600, 602, 604 606,611 & 619 Fifth Street) expressed their collective concern that they were being singled out. They suggested that the “P” permit be spread around; and noted that 2—3 cars are parked on the street for days at-a-time without moving. **Catherine Cuccio**, 600 Fifth Street, submitted pictures of conditions on Fifth Street and reported parking violations she had observed and noted that “anyone can park in front of our homes who does not belong there, with no consequence.” **Ms. Cuccio** explained that the ability to park in front of her home “is definitely a quality of life issue.” **Ms. Cuccio** made several suggestions as alternatives to overnight parking and asked that her street (the 600 block of Fifth Street) be returned to “N” parking status.

Chairman Swanson recognized **residents from the apartment buildings** who asked the Commission *not* to remove the parking.

The **600 block of Fifth Street** submitted a petition to re-instate “No Parking” from 2 a.m. – 5 a.m.

Chairman Swanson made several suggestions as a possible compromise.

The **Commissioners** discussed compromises and possible solutions:

1. provision of additional parking spaces in the C.T.A. lot,
2. removal of the loading zone in front of the “400” apartment building,
3. creation of additional parking on Linden Avenue,
4. removal of the “timed zone” on Linden Avenue,
5. restoration of the “No Parking 2 a.m.- 5 a.m. on the 600 block of Fifth Street from the alley to Greenleaf,
6. restoration of the “No Parking 8 a.m. – 10 a.m. Monday –Friday except by permit” on the 600 block of Fifth Street.

At 9:10 p.m. **Robert S. Lewis** raised a point of order, noting that a quorum no longer existed. **Chairman Swanson** confirmed that Commissioner Teal had left; and that without a quorum, a vote could not take place.

The **Chairman** directed staff to present the Commission with a map showing the proposed changes.

Chairman Swanson recognized **Police Chief George Carpenter** who noted that decisions are made in the public's best interest, adding that the placement or removal of signs is done with the authority of the Chief of Police and the Village Engineer.

4. **Feedback**

Chairman Swanson provided resident survey questionnaires to the residents who appeared before the **Commission**.

5. **Old Business / Pending Matters / Next Meeting**

The *next meeting* was scheduled for **Tuesday, April 18, 2000 at 7:30 p.m.** in the Second Floor Training room to review a map showing the proposed change in restrictions relative to the Fifth & Linden parking, signage on the Green Bay bicycle trail, and to discuss the Jewel traffic study. Linda Reilley reminded the Commission that the Engineering Department is working on the design for traffic calming on Manor Drive and Locust Road.

The meeting ended at 9:30 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Amy E. Hellwig.