

Draft Minutes of the Transportation Commission Meeting held on Wednesday, March 13, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Second Floor Training Room at Village Hall, 1200 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois 60091.

Members Present: Clayton Weaver, Chairperson
Cathy Albrecht
Paul Chouinard
Keith MacKenzie
Mark Wagstaff

Members Absent: Jim Grosh
Eileen Miller-Girson

Staff Present: Brigitte Mayerhofer, P.E., Director of Engineering
Don George, Parking Enforcement Officer

Also Present: Ruth Jasper, 928 15th Street
Mike Powers 1524 Walnut
Suzanne Day, 1502 Walnut Avenue

Please Update Tom Schneck, 1420 Forest Avenue
Maria Baird, 1601 Elmwood
George Baker, 1405 Lake Avenue
Alfred Eckersberg, 1501 Walnut Avenue

Chairman Weaver called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Review of Minutes

Approval of the February 13, 2008 meeting minutes.

Motion by: Commissioner Wagstaff

Second by: Commissioner Chouinard

Discussion: Comments noted.

Action: Approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. 1400 block of Lake Avenue – Petition for Resident Permit Parking, M-F 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

- Ms. Mayerhofer introduced this item by indicating the residents in this block of Lake Avenue have a parking hardship because there is no parking on Lake Avenue and permit parking on 15th Street and Forest Avenue. A similar request was made and granted by the Commission for the 1500 block of Lake Avenue last year.
- Ms. Mayerhofer asked the meeting attendants if anyone could speak on behalf of the petitioners, but none were in attendance.
- George Baker, representing 1405 Lake Avenue, asked why he received a meeting notice. Ms. Mayerhofer explained the notification requirements for parking petitions.

- The Commission discussed whether or not the petition applies to the north side of the street or the south side. Although not stated explicitly, Ms. Mayerhofer indicated the intention is just the north side of the street.
- Marina Baird, 1601 Elmwood Avenue, stated 15th Street is the primary school route, so sight distance is a concern.
- Tom Schnecke, 1420 Forest, stated that he is concerned that the parking would overflow to Forest.
- Commissioner Wagstaff reminded the group that on-street parking is a traffic calming measure.
- Ruth Jasper, 928 15th Street, indicated she has a driveway on 15th Street and stated it is very difficult for her to exit her driveway because of cars parked across the street.
- Another resident was concerned that the residents of 1400 Lake Avenue might give their permits away. Officer Don George indicated that resident permit parking privileges have historically not been abused. It was noted that the petitioners could not explain how they intended to use permit parking, because they were not available to address the Commission.
- There was concern that the petition may not have the correct number of signatures. Staff will verify the number for future discussion. In addition, the petition does not state the block on 15th Street that they wish to park on. Finally, the petition should clarify which side of the street it applies to.
- George Baker, 1405 Lake Avenue, suggested using the residential parking requirements in the zoning code as a benchmark for determining if parking requests should be granted.
- The Commission did not act on the petition because of questions that could not be answered and incomplete information about the petition.

3. 900 block of 15th Street- Petition for Resident Permit Parking. M-F, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

- Ms. Mayerhofer stated that the petition was submitted because of commuter parking on the 900 block of 15th Street. The field study has proven that the criteria in the Village Code for resident permit parking have been met.
- Chair Weaver asked how many cars are available to park on 15th in this area, to which Mr. George indicated there are approximately 15 available spaces on the west side of the street. Of the 15 available spaces, Mr. George indicated that 12 cars is the average occupancy. The majority of the occupied spaces were from cars outside of the neighborhood.
- The group discussed who is eligible to sign the petition. It was determined that there were 8 homes that are adjacent to the petition area.

- Tom Schnecke, 1420 Forest Avenue, and George Baker, 1405 Lake Avenue, concurred that the east side of Green Bay Road, north of Lake Avenue, should be opened up for commuter parking. The discussion concluded that there is no sidewalk on the east side of Green Bay Road, so access to the train station is a concern. The parking is currently a four hour zone, to accommodate the businesses.
- Mr. George stated that he and the other parking enforcement officer try to educate the commuters when a new permit parking zone is established. They offer Poplar Drive as an alternative.
- Commissioner Wagstaff asked if the issue on 15th is related to sight distance or that there are not enough spaces to park. Suzanne Day, 1502 Walnut, representing the petitioners stated it is both.

Motion recommending approval of resident permit parking on the west side of the 900 block of 15th Street to read “No Parking 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, Monday through Friday, except by permit.”

Motion by: Commissioner Albrecht

Second: Commissioner Chouinard

Action: Approved by unanimous voice vote.

4. Old Business / Pending Matters / Next Meeting

- **Ms. Mayerhofer provided a brief update on the Green Bay Road traffic signal project.**
- **Commissioner Albrecht noted the Bike Task Force’s fund raising efforts for bicycle training and events.**
- **Commissioner MacKenzie asked if staff followed with the request to look at parking at the intersection of 16th Street and Lake Avenue. Ms. Mayerhofer said she did not have an update, but will for the next meeting.**
- **Commissioner MacKenzie asked about any other old parking restrictions that need to be cleaned up. Mr. George indicated he is working with Linda Reilley on this.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2008.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Brigitte Mayerhofer.