

Macalester-Groveland Community Council
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 23, 2012 6:30 PM

Edgumbe Recreation Center 320 Griggs Street Saint Paul

Attending: Amber Dallman (chair), Milton Papageorge, Leo Viktora, Joel Clemmer, David Redmond, Ben Hartberg, Mike Kowski, Jack Fei, Andy Albrecht, Dave Pasiuk (minutes), Afton Martin (staff), Callie Recknagel(staff)

Guests: Elizabeth Stiffler, Lisa Faulk-Thompson, Regina Flanagan, Lenny Russo, James Savoie, Joe and Christine Anderson, Sally Kuig, Linda Snyder, Sam Tomlin, David Amdur, Tim Hinzo, Tom Kappors, Clarence Chaplin, Carson Gorecki, Brad Momsen, Steve Matysik, Eric Celeste, Mary Hess, Liz Murray, Lois Hogen, Joan Perusse, Harvey Perusse, Judy Rehak, Joe and Marn Frank, Wendy Coles, Jacob Seyan, Sara Mountain, Mike Mountain, Steve Gorg, Nicole Wittig Geske, Sarah Paul, Deborah Smith, Gail Andre, Virginia Palmer, Robert Hennessey

Greeting: Amber welcomed all to the meeting and asked all the committee members to introduce themselves. She quickly explained to the 25+ plus guests attending for the Area 21 parking issue how the meeting would be conducted. She stated that after a brief presentation of the issue, people with questions would be recognized by her if they raised their hands. She further explained the process being followed is a new policy being implemented by all committees in the MGCC.

Minutes: Motion was made and seconded to approve minutes from the December 12, 2011 meeting.

AREA 21 PERMIT PARKING

Elizabeth Stiffler from Saint Paul Public Works gave a brief explanation of the proposed changes to the Area 21 Parking Permit boundaries and limits. Amber then opened the meeting to questions and comments from the 25+ residents in and around the current Area 21. Some of the questions and comments are summarized as follows:

- Most of the non-resident vehicles parked in the area along Lincoln Avenue between Cleveland and Prior are from St. Thomas students/guests and Metro Transit riders who park their cars and ride the bus. This was visually backed-up by pictures of the parked cars along Lincoln when school at St. Thomas was in session and when it was not in session. Some residents also raised concerns of Davanni's employees parking on Goodrich.
- Some residents east of Prior Avenue raised concerns that the increase of the area for parking permits would push the non-residents to park further east onto their streets. One or two of these people understood that this would happen. However, they expressed the opinion that they would not seek to expand the permit area at this time. Residents from this block also expressed concern about the transparency of the process and wanted notification of public hearings, even though they live outside of the required area to notify. Elizabeth Stiffler said she would consider notifying a larger area on this issue.
- Some in the room expressed the concern that Parking Permit Area issues should not just be focused on a particular street or streets, but should be looked at in a broader view. Others countered by asking where do you draw the line.
- Several people mentioned the parking ramp on the St. Thomas and why or if they can reduce the parking fee.

Amber then asked for questions/comments from the committee member. Several members explained their reasons for not wanting to vote on this issue at the last meeting. Others stated their

concerns/support for the revised petition. It was explained that St. Thomas charges to park on campus in order to try to steer their students to use public transit and not private transport to get to campus. Leo Viktora will follow up with WSNAC working on the TDM plan with St. Thomas to see if there's any way to address this issue in the future.

Motion: A motion was made that the transportation committee accept the new Petition for Permit Parking for Area 21 and recommends that the MGCC approve this petition and inform the appropriate officials. The motion was seconded and approved by all with one abstention. After the vote most of the people attending the meeting left the room.

2012 COMMITTEE CHAIRS/S ELECTION

A motion was made and quickly amended nominating Amber Dallman and Ben Hartberg as co-chairs of the Transportation Committee. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the members. Both Amber and Ben graciously accepted the positions.

2012 RSVP PROJECTS

Lisa Faulk-Thompson explained that the next RSVP project is Prior/Goodrich this year. The bidding process was moved up to February this year because of fear of a jump in cost like the 17% one experienced last year. Questions concerning the process of the RSVP and how it is displayed or not on the city's web site were raised. The biggest concern raised revolves around the increase from 60% to 75% approval of residents in order for transportation issue petitions to be accepted by Public Works. The explanation given by members of the committee to this issue seemed to center around the City's concern that these issues be legitimate and the bar be high enough to insure that the petition issue is warranted.

This motion was made and seconded: The Transportation Committee recommends to the MGCC that they support a 66% approval rate of all occupied residences and that this 66% rate be the standard for all transportation related petitions. This motion was approved unanimously.

The City Public Art Ordinance was explained by Regina Flanagan. 1% of each RSVP project budget will go towards public art, starting with 2010 projects. This includes Davern and Jefferson RSVP areas I and II, and the Prior-Goodrich RSVP project. City Artist in Residence, Marcus Young and a team of artists will meet with neighbors for their input before any art is added to the project. Ms. Flanagan asked for help from the district council in dispersing the information to the community. Callie and Afton agreed to coordinate the Arts information through our current electronic media.

COMMITTEE PROCESS

Amber moved that this issue be moved to the next meeting. It was approved and seconded.

2012 WORK PLAN & MISSION STATEMENT

The work plan and mission statement were briefly discussed. A slight change to the verbiage in the last item of the work plan was made. Mission statement: "The Transportation Committee is a liaison between stakeholders, including local community councils & government agencies supporting & advocating for a balanced multi-modal transportation system." A motion was made and seconded concerning both issues and was unanimously approved.

MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:13 PM

END OF MINUTES