Town of Mansfield Parking Steering Committee for Storrs Center and Meeting of the signatories of the COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT for Parking Enforcement in and adjacent to Storrs Center Development, Mansfield, CT

Special Meeting
Tuesday, February 19, 2019
Mansfield Downtown Partnership Office
23 Royce Circle
3:00 PM

Minutes

Members Present: Karla Fox (Chair), Manny Haidous, Dennis Stanavage

Ex-Officio Members and Staff Present: John Carrington, Derrik Kennedy, and Cynthia van Zelm

Guests: Partnership Board member John McGuire, Stathis Manousos, Vice President Business Development and Regional Manager for LAZ Parking

1. Call to Order

Chair Karla Fox called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm and introductions were made.

2. Remarks from the Chair

Ms. Fox said she was chair of UConn's Parking Advisory Committee for many years. The Parking Advisory Committee discussed many of the same issues as the Steering Committee. Parking is dynamic and so changes may need to be made in the downtown. It will be important to keep in mind community needs and demographics.

3. Approval of Minutes from November 14, 2018

Manny Haidous made a motion to approve the minutes of November 14, 2018. Dennis Stanavage seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

4. Old Business

Parking Cooperative Agreement

As follow-up to her e-mail, Cynthia van Zelm said the Parking Cooperative Agreement has been signed. UConn decided not to sign the two year Agreement since the Agreement does not cover UConn parking.

Enforcement Strategies

Stathis Manousos said the goal is to look at the parking system in Downtown Storrs as holistically as possible. Using cell phones as an enforcement tool is one way to provide more efficiency in the system.

Derrik Kennedy said the town has heard from a few businesses about customer complaints about tickets. How can we use parking enforcement to encourage turnover and not cause customers to worry about moving their cars to avoid a ticket? He said the discussion about pay by cell in some areas of downtown is a starting point.

The Committee discussed how pay by cell might work and asked questions about the logistics of the system. An advantage is that the app can be programmed depending on the need. For example, a different structure could be set up for the summer when it is less busy and less enforcement is needed. Mr. Manousos noted that communication would be critical if a decision was made to proceed with pay by cell.

The Committee will meet again in April to review feedback on parking enforcement between now and then.

Ms. van Zelm said Jessie Richard, owner of The Flower Pot, has agreed to serve on the Committee as the downtown business representative.

5. Review of future meeting dates

Ms. van Zelm will poll Committee members for an April meeting.

Ms. Fox would like Committee member Dwight Atherton to update the Committee on the status of UConn employee parking on campus at the next meeting.

6. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:36 pm.

Minutes taken by Cynthia van Zelm