

DOWNTOWN PARKING WORKING GROUP

Minutes- March 27, 2019

Present: Wendy, Christine, Catherine, Sarah, Geoff

Absent: Sharon

Minutes from February 27th approved unanimously.

Update on Consultant's Work: They were in town for counts on Saturday 3/23 9:00 am-7:00 pm and are schedule for Thursday 3/28 7:00 am-7:00 pm.

First public meeting is scheduled for April 11 from 5:30-7:30 pm at the Bangs Community Center. Both Matt and Jason from Nelson Nygaard will be in attendance. Not clear on Allison.

Process for meeting is still being worked out and they are working with a UMass group to gather data at the meeting through clickers.

Review of data collection will be part of the presentation.

Geoff is talking with the consultant at noon (3/27) and will be joined by Christine.

We know that consultants have been out listening but not clear on what other meetings they have held or attended.

They have invoiced for 2/3 s of the project but they have not given us any products yet.

Draft report will be in May. Christine asked if they could give us sections ahead as they finish them

Christine also wanted to know who at NN is writing the report.

Consultant's report should include thoughts on a parking garage.

Parking System Goals and Principles: Geoff asked what several things do we think define a good parking system. Consistent. Flexible. User-friendly.

Under user-friendly, several other terms came up including optimized and efficient.

Also part of a good system would be signage, scanners and better communication and messaging. It was suggested that we hold a workshop for businesses on parking messaging. Positive and cheerful way to discuss parking.

Goal should be that any long-term strategy should plan for new growth and development.

Large gatherings and events.

Other: formalizing shared parking was discussed.

Vote to finalize letter to Town Council was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by Sarah la Cour