

(In Person and Zoom)

MINUTES FROM THE
PARKING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING

October 11, 2024

Members Present: Ryan Fries, George Pelekanos, Jennifer Hookstra, John Foster, Cindy Cobetto, Shane Kessinger, Linda Eilerman, Michelle Shatto, Moayad Abuzaneh, and Christy McDougal

Ex-Officio Members Present: Robert Vanzo, Tony Langendorf, Craig Holan, Mallory Sidarous, and Diane Chappel

Members Absent: Ericka Johnson (excused)

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Heather Birdsell

Ryan Fries, Chair, presided over the monthly Parking and Traffic Committee Meeting on Friday, October 11, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in person and via Zoom. Minutes from the September 13, 2024, meeting, were presented. A Motion was made by Shane Kessinger to approve the Minutes and seconded by Cindy Cobetto. No objections. Minutes stand approved as written.

Jennifer Hookstra was introduced as a new member of the committee to replace Jennifer Rosselli-Lynch.

COMMITTEES

- A. Appeals Committee: Michelle Shatto stated two Appeals were heard by the committee and denied.
- B. Policy Committee: No report.
- C. Senate Reports:
 - 1. Faculty Senate: No report.
 - 2. Staff Senate: No report.
 - 3. Student Senate: No report.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received to discuss.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Initiatives Assigned to Facilities Management:

Tony reported the Emergency Phone has been installed at Simmons-Cooper Field. He added that next year the parking lot will be redone along with adding lighting to the parking lot.

Craig announced that South University Drive should be back to two lanes by next week. He also added that the South bound lanes of University Drive will be resurfaced next year.

He stated the Health Science Building is progressing well. He added there is no update on Lot P.

B. Motorist Assistance, Citation, Towing Monthly Report, and Moving Violation Statistics, and EV Charging Data:

Tony Langendorf reported citations issued were the same in 2021 and 2024. He also reported the EV stations are being used quite often. The Flowbird APP is still the main payment method for pay machines.

C. Permit Sales Update/Lotteries:

Tony reported permit sales are up over 170 permits. Red permits and evening permits are up over last year's sales.

Tony reported there are about 120 spots in Lot A for Athletics; and, we are still selling Brown Permits. There are 150 at first come, first serve.

Tony stated that when the switch is made to pay by text, 20 spaces will be added in Lots A and E and some spaces by Alumni and the South side of Lot A. There will also be upgraded pay stations added. We will still use coupon codes at the machines. However, temporary permits may have to do until the machines can be set up. Bob asked for ideas on how best to reach out to students to let them know about the new pay machines. Moe suggested social media, Facebook, contact organizations and clubs to post about it on their sites and in group meetings. Mallory also suggested social media is the best way and of course Housing would post in the halls and on their website. She also suggested partnering with Kimmel to put the information out on social media. Bob stated a final decision on the vendor will be made soon.

D. License Plate Recognition (LPR) – Fall 2025: Tony reported he still has a lot of questions on the functioning of LPR. He suggested if anyone has questions on LPR, to go to Illinois State University's Parking website which does a great job of explaining how LPR works.

Linda Eilerman reported the MCT Highland bus may discontinue that route. She questioned if a group of people could purchase one permit together. Tony stated that they could purchase a day permit for \$3.00 or join Ride Finders.

E. Service Permit Update: We have decided to have everyone reapply for a Service Permit which expires on October 31, 2024. Bob plans on having a meeting with Tony and Jackie to look at the Service Permits we have out now, the quantity each department has and if the need for that many Service Permits is reasonable. We will report back to the Committee next month.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Parking Lot Census and FY2024 Financial Statement: Tony reported on the Financial Report. He also reported on the Parking Lot Census for FY2024. Ryan Fries pointed out that 77 percent of the expenses are debt service and salaries.

B. Towing Policy: Scofflaw citations have been lowered to 4 citations and \$200 to help curb this behavior. In the past students had large debts due to parking citations which means they cannot register for classes. We would call the University Police to come assist when we were towing a vehicle. However, sometimes the Police would notify the student they were about to be towed and they would come and move their vehicle. This was not much of a deterrent to stop the behavior. Bob added that the Police were involved in case of any altercations between the student and the

towing personnel. They were also the office that called the towing company to come to campus. After discussing this with the Chief, he agreed to let the Parking Service Agents call the towing company. On Wednesday we had our first tow call without police involvement, and everything went well. Bob stated that while we contract with a towing company, we do not pay them. There are usually two towing companies that compete for the job. The towing companies have to be within 5 miles of campus in order to compete. Bob stated that Brown Towing Company has had the contract for at least the past 10 years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mallory stated the new Circle Drive has greatly improved the approach to Woodland Hall and the parking lot.

Ryan Fries added that a group of traffic students will be conducting a study on Circle Drive, North University Drive and P12. He will report back with results.

ADJOURNMENT

A Motion to Adjourn was made by Michelle Shatto. Mallory Sidarous seconded the Motion. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m. The next meeting will be on Friday, November 8, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Magnolia Room at the Morris University Center and on Zoom.