

Morristown/Morrisville Parking Committee

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Meeting Minutes of Tuesday 28 June 2022

Council Members present: Selectboard Member Jess Graham, Joshua Goldstein, Graham Mink

Council Members absent: Elizabeth Casparian

Guests present: Conservation Commission Members Co-Chair Ron Stancliff

Staff: Planning Director Todd Thomas

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order on the veranda of the clubhouse at Copley Country Club at approximately 4:00 P.M.

Discuss: Committee Goals and Objectives set by the Selectboard – Jess Graham provided the history of the goals and objectives document provided to the new Parking Committee by the Selectboard. The committee discussed but did not make a decision regarding the existing 500 foot distance from a municipal parking lot for parking waiver eligibility. The committee agreed that there was generally enough parking available during the daytime hours, and that any parking shortage was being created by the Selectboard's winter parking ban, and the Selectboard's limiting of overnight parking to assigned spaces in municipal parking lots during said parking ban. The Committee also spoke to how the Town could be more environmentally responsible by using pavers, permeable pavement, and bio-retention within its parking lots.

The committee agreed that there was ample "low-hanging-fruit" that would allow more parking to be created without needing to fund a parking garage. Said low-hanging-fruit, reasonably ordered from easiest to more difficult or costly to accomplish, was determined to be as follows:

1. Purchase signage to designate overnight parking in the Brigham St. parking lot.
2. Purchase signage to designate overnight parking at Oxbow Riverfront Park.
3. Purchase signage to designate overnight parking in the Union Bank parking lot.
4. Add parking at library park & ride lot and designate more overnight spaces there.
5. Improve public parking signage and create an online map of public parking.
6. Work with the Highway Superintendent to look at different ways to plow and remove snow in an effort to create more overnight parking, including trialing allowing alternating weeks of on-street parking downtown during the winter parking ban months.
7. Utilize the ample pavement width on Lower Main Street to stripe in angled parking on the north side of the street.
8. Build the previously engineered and approved angled parking in front of the museum (replacing the two existing parallel parking spaces).
9. Look to improve bicycle accommodations in the downtown to encourage less car trips therein.
10. Turn Pleasant and/or Hutchins into one-way streets to accommodate on street parking thereon.

11. Purchase a small strip of the side lawn from the Masons on Brigham Street so the existing parallel parking can become angled parking.
12. Work with Garret Hirschak to create a paved parking lot both on and off the new town owned parcel at the bottom of Pleasant Street (including the VTrans railway loading lease area).
13. Work with the Selectboard to research the 1% rooms & meal tax as a potential way to fund the construction of a future public parking garage in downtown Morrisville.
14. Examine ways to rent or sell parking in any new public garage to pay for its upkeep, including allowing developers to buy parking therein instead of supplying their own on-site parking during the permitting process.

It was agreed that the next Parking Committee Meeting would take place from 4PM to 5PM at Copley Country Club on Tuesday July 26th. It was also agreed at that Highway Superintendent Barrows, Town Administrator Dodge, and Police Chief Luneau would be invited to the August 23rd or September 13th Parking Committee meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 PM, submitted by Todd Thomas, Planning Director