

**Billings Parking Board
Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2021**

This meeting was held over a Zoom and In Person due to Phase II of Covid-19.

Board Members Present by Zoom: Brandon Scala, Sean Lynch

Board Member Present in person: David Fishbaugh, Kallie Parson, Mark Kary

Ad Hoc Board Member Present : Mehmet Casey

Board Members Absent: Joni Harmon, Todd Morgan, Larry Matthews

City Staff Present: Tracy Scott, Jennifer Mockel

City Staff Present Over Zoom : Kevin Iffland

Call to Order: David called the meeting to order @ 2:00 pm

Minutes:

The March 10, 2021 minutes were approved by Mark, seconded by Kallie and approved by the Board.

Reports:

- **Monthly Reports**

Tracy presented the March 2021 monthly report. There were no changes between February and March 2021. The park and shop, hourly cash sales, and Empire Garage all showed an increase, which means things are starting to get back to normal in the downtown area. Compared to 2020, the garages had 42 more monthly parkers. There are 3 more reserved spaces in the lots then last year. The case sales and hotel validations were higher than last year.

- **Operating Report**

Tracy reported that the operations were down compared to last year, due to the Covid situation. Overall, the division is doing well.

- **Credit Card Analyze Report/PBP Report**

The board received the March 2021 credit card and Pay By Phone reports. The usage is still increasing with the Pay By Phone app.

Downtown Alliance Report

Mehmet reported that Strawberry Festival is happening on July 10th, the Saturday prior to the start of the Farmers Market. The Farmers Market will go through Oct 2nd. There is a possibility of Harvest Fest starting after the Farmers Market.

There is a new event coming out around Father's Day. It will be announced to the public soon.

More information will be coming out about Alive After Five.

There are new businesses coming to the downtown area, both small and big businesses.

The street conversion started on 29th and 30th street between 6th and 1st Ave N. David asked if the meters and parking will be staying the same. Mehmet stated that they will be the same but will lose some spots around the Lincoln Center.

Public Comment (3 Minutes)

Discussion Items:

- **Uber/Door Dash/Lift parking spaces/permit charges**

Currently the parking department has Meter Bags over some meter for the restaurants for take out orders. The thought was to have signs installed one per block face to help with those drivers that are picking up orders or citizens for Uber/Door Dash/Lift, etc.

The board thought that the permits were a great idea and suggested that we have the logos of the companies on the permit, to be different then the delivery permits. Sean believes that the Taxis should be included in this also. The board believes that the signs should be where the commercial loading/unloading signs already are. Tracy will look to see where the signs are currently located and will get it to the board members.

- **Extending Garage Charging Hours**

Tracy stated that the situation with COVID suspended some of our revenue ideas. One idea that stopped was charging 24 hours in the garages. Tracy would like to extend the charging hours in the garages to 24/6, Sunday being free. The board was in favor of this and approved to change the hours.

Agenda/Action Items

- **Special Parking for Dress for Success**

Dress for Success wants the 10-hour spots to be removed in front of their new location on 31st Street between 3rd and 4th Ave. They would like to have a handicap spot and 2-hour parking signs installed. Tracy mentioned it would be better to have meters, not 2-hour parking. Sean suggested that we put the meters back up. There was discussion between the 2-hour signs vs the meters.

Mark moved to make one handicap spot and 12 metered spots. Sean seconded and board approved.

- **Special Parking for Don's Car Wash**

Don's Car Wash on 19th between 1st and 2nd Ave N is requesting a 10-minute sign in front of their location. The board discussed that there is lack of signatures from neighbors; however, there are no other neighbors in that area for them to get signatures from.

Mark motioned to approve, and Brandon seconded, the board approved.

- **Special Parking for Quincy Brown and Connie Palmer**

Applicant is requesting special parking in front of her residence on 2nd Ave and North 25th Street.

The board denied the application as written. Discussion about having meters put up for her business but leave the other spots 10-hour permit only.

Mark motioned to change two of the parking spots to meters, Sean seconded, and board approved.

- **Pedlet Applications for Sassy Biscuit**

Sassy Biscuit filed a Pedlet Application, this is the first Pedlet application received. The application was approved by the DBA.

Mark motioned to approve, and Brandon seconded; the board approved.

Additional comments/discussion:

Mehmet was asked if the Pedlet applications can be submitted past the deadline for 2021, due to it being a brand-new program and the first year. Tracy and Mark both believe that we want to

promote this for the downtown area. The Produce Depot is requesting one; they wont open until June 1st. The board members stated they would consider the late applicants.

Mehmet mentioned that the DBA is looking for Mural artist. They are wondering if they can paint a Mural on the Park 1 garage in the Alley; the Board and Tracy said that would be fine. The Mural will have to be approved by The City of Billings and make sure they have insurance.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Budget Information

Meeting Adjournment:

David adjourned meeting at 3:22 pm.

Next Meeting scheduled on May 12, 2021 @ 2:00 pm.