

METUCHEN PARKING AUTHORITY
JUNE 21, 2016 MINUTES

PRESENT:

Commissioners: Leonard Roseman, John DeFoe, Ed O'Brien, Anthony Campisi and Richard Dyas
Borough Council Liaison: Jay Muldoon
Chamber Liaison:
Legal Counsel: Allen Cumber of Venezia & Nolen sitting in for Daria Venezia
Executive Director: Thomas Crownover

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bruce Levin of Edison appeared to say his wife has parked in the Halsey parking lot for 18 years. They were notified that the Authority would not be able to provide this parking starting with the 3rd quarter. Mr. Levin questioned how the decision was made. Chairman Roseman responded that seniority data was not available to make the determination. Those excluded from surface parking were selected randomly. Mr. Roseman confirmed that priority would be given to those excluded as space becomes available on surface lots. He noted that the residents of Metuchen have been subsidizing Authority parking for many years and giving them parking priority is appropriate. Mr. Levin agreed. The advantages of deck parking were discussed.

MINUTES:

Mr. DeFoe moved acceptance of the May 17th and 24th minutes, as modified by Mr. O'Brien, which were seconded by Mr. Dyas and unanimously approved. Jay Muldoon said the signage meeting minutes captured much of the detail from that meeting.

BILL LIST:

The Authority funding for the business improvement district was discussed and is subject to change by Borough Council. The Metuchen Downtown Alliance received \$150,000.00 from the Borough which will be reimbursed by the Authority. Mr. Dyas asked about pro forma financial projections have been done. Council Liaison Muldoon commented on what the financial future of the MDA will look like.

Mr. DeFoe discussed managing parking on Main Street and the dedication of parking proceeds for the MDA. Mr. Muldoon said the MDA Board will turn over eight positions, opening a seat for an Authority representative. Commissioner O'Brien questioned Main Street enforcement and curb parking revenue. Mr. DeFoe said that enforcement was crucial to managing parking on Main Street. Chairman Roseman described prior efforts at enforcement. Mr. Campisi asked about free Saturday parking. Mr. Muldoon expects free 2 hour Saturday parking in the deck. A validation system is also under consideration. Parking for business owners and employees was discussed. Mr. DeFoe commented on the bargain cost for town workers even with the recent rate increase to \$55 monthly.

Mr. O'Brien moved to pay the bills was seconded by Mr. DeFoe and approved unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

With several letters and emails complaining about changes in surface lot parking, Mr. Roseman said that addressing these items requires some flexibility. Mr. Muldoon noted a complaint that he had received about a Metuchen resident who was seeking Halsey parking. The chairman expressed his appreciation for the customer service work being done by Dorothy Wyzykowski. Mr. Roseman commented on a business owner's complaint about the rate increase. Mr. Campisi complained about June Bug street closings at an early hour, needlessly interfering with business activity.

FINANCIAL REPORTS (Subject to Audit):

The financial reports were reviewed. Mr. DeFoe said that the reports are less useful at this time in managing the Authority.

MAY INCOME: \$79,625.25; YEAR TO DATE INCOME: \$386,798.07

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Crownover discussed his health care reimbursement by the Authority requesting that it be made wage compensation rather than reimbursement. After lengthy discussion by the commissioners, Mr. Roseman concluded that this will be done upon review of Authority obligations regarding this issue.

OLD BUSINESS:

Signage and wayfinding was discussed by Councilman Muldoon.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Roseman will provide parking data on our 3rd quarter parking availability.

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIASION

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE:

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DeFoe moved adjournment was seconded by Mr. Dyas and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Thomas Crownover