

Takoma Park Parking Management Task Force
Meeting Minutes – Jul 29, 2020

Attendance

City Staff: Rosalind Grigsby

Task Force: Greg Gorman (note-taker), Jackie Davison, Tim Judson, Paul Huebner, Allen Fetter, Roger Schlegel

Minutes

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm.
- 2) Meter Recommendations
 - Metering stations vs current individual meters discussed.
 - Parking meter station technology is 15 years old; already obsolete. The cost is estimated at \$14,000.
 - Access to those who don't use mobile should be a concern
 - Existing meters obstruct sidewalks and might cause ADA issues; stations also block but less of them
 - There may be new use for spots in future (e.g. EV spaces)
 - License plate readers could be used for short-term parking as well as RPPs
 - Dictating technology may be too specific, and boxes the City in when new tech arises
 - The 'digital-divide' needs to be recognized when exclusive use of tech is proposed; we don't want to make smartphone use the price of citizenship
 - Key consensus: make it simple to use, and make it accessible
 - Parking infrastructure should not block sidewalks
 - Hours of metering should balance customer turnover and attracting businesses (e.g. Silver Spring has free evening parking)
 - Handicapped parking policy discussed – length of free parking uncertain. Jackie proposed bringing this to the community.
 - Grant avenue near the Junction and Old Town loading zones are metered spaces. The lot behind the businesses is private, too narrow to enter, or too steep. Loading times are during commuting times and can block bikes. Ace had asked for the current loading zone times.
 - Demand based pricing might not be transparent; also it's an equity issue.
 - Parking stations are expensive to install, and TP parking isn't dense.
 - Demand-based pricing may be too confusing
- 3) The group decided to accept the Mayor's invitation to speak about plans for committee and task force assignments in the City.
- 4) Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.