

Town of Sharon



Transportation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2022

Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) Members

Linda Hager - Co Chair	Terri Rawding
Neil Coplan	Sam Liao
David Fixler - Co Chair	

Other Attendees

Kevin Davis, DPW Representative

Administration

- The meeting of the Transportation Advisory Board was called to order at 6:00 PM via ZOOM.
- Future scheduled meeting(s): TBD
- Agenda items include: Elect a Chair and Co-Chair, Discuss Select Board Motion - "That the Transportation Advisory Board review the information on parking demand, commuting patterns and issues related to the quarterly pass system, mobile app for daily parking, and enforcement issues and make recommendations for adjustments to the railroad parking program and report to the Select Board by April, 2023.", Update on present community patterns, Progressing forward with the Resident Parking & Quarterly Pass System - management, resident options, spaces needed, fee, daily parking mobile app, User survey
- Mr. Sam Liao was introduced as a new member of the Transportation Advisory Board.
- In 2023 we need to reappoint/reinstate members.
- Mr. Liao nominated both Linda Hager and David Fixler as Co-Chairs of the Transportation Advisory Board. Mr. Coplan seconded the motion and the Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of these nominations.

Minutes

- Mr. Coplan moved to approve the minutes of 9/12/22. Ms. Rawding seconded the motion. The Board voted 4-0-1 (Liao) in favor of approval.

Discussion

- Ms. Hager commented that at the last Select Board meeting it was reported that there was an increase in the cost of the quarterly pass from \$135 - \$162. The TAB was not involved in the decision making surrounding the cost increase. She said that she thought our charge

was the train station. Conversation ensued. Mr. Liao said we can recommend going back to the original rate.

- Ms. Hager said that she had communicated with Peter O'Cain, Town Engineer and he had told her about the parking rate increase. Mr. O'Cain had said to her that he will help with a survey using survey monkey on the town website and on Facebook to see what commuters feel about quarterly spaces on the Providence side. A brief conversation ensued regarding what to include in the survey. Mr. Liao suggested putting flyers in the nonresident spaces and ask what they think.
- Mr. Coplan questioned if we can use our old survey. He said he would take charge on starting the survey.
- Ms. Hager said to Kevin Davis, Assistant Town Engineer and Health Agent that Mr. O'Cain had mentioned residents wanted quarterly spaces on the Providence side. Mr. Davis said that part of that side is owned by the MBTA. He said that 64 quarterly spaces were converted to daily spaces. He also said that fundamentally people's needs have changed as to how they use public transportation.
- Mr. Fixler said we need the survey for data and then we need to make a series of recommendations as to what the next stage of parking should be. The Board needs to know how many quarterly spaces are used. Mr. Davis will speak to Mr. O'Cain. He suggested in January to see data of parking lot use. Mr. Davis said we can survey 2 weeks every month. We can include finer details resident/nonresident, daily and quarterly. Mr. Coplan said we need percentage of usage in each area.
- Mr. Fixler said we need to discuss pay by phone ticketing fees. This is a customer service relations issue. Why are we charging \$25 for a ticket when the app does not work? We need a genesis of the policy.
- Ms. Hager commented why isn't the MBTA managing our lot. Mr. Davis said he is unsure of the details. Ms. Hager said we need a clear answer as to why we are managing and maintaining the lot.
- Ms. Hager asked Mr. Davis what is the policy? Why are we charging \$25 for a ticket? Can the ticket be waved because we can obtain pay by phone proof and just have them pay the \$4? What's happening with the .35 processing surcharge? Does the MBTA have a surcharge incurred on them? Mr. Davis said he will look into this. Ms. Hager also asked to see the updated contract with the MBTA.

Adjournment

Ms. Rawding moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Coplan seconded the motion. Through unanimous consent and by a vote of 5-0-0 the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Submitted:

Rachelle Levitts

Transportation Advisory Board Administrative Assistant