

City of Fairhope Parking Authority meeting minutes

Monday, September 18, 2023

Present: Chad Bartz, Mandy Bezeredi, Morgan Slay, Josh Turner, Bryan Flowers, Stephanie Hollinghead/City liaison

Meeting called to order at 0800 hrs.

Members voted to approve the minutes from the June 5, 2023, meeting.

Paige Crawford gave an update on the Arts Alley Project. She said they are 10 months into the project, and they have spoken to the contractors. Most of the big stuff is complete and they are tidying up on small stuff and cleaning up. Restrooms are almost complete. Should know more of a date for the ribbon cutting ceremony in the next 2 months.

Paige asked for the Parking Authority's help on the directional sign on the side of Master Joe's. Asking the Committee's opinion on the best use of space to advertise the parking deck for use. That project will be further discussed after the budget passes. Morgan Slay asked if there was any type of agreement on the mural that would be placed on the side of Master Joe's and what that mural would look like. Paige indicated that Master Joe wants to be involved in the approval of that final design. The idea is to put something in the corner and not something that takes up the entire wall. Something to catch everyone's eye to point them in the direction of the parking garage. The Mayor had discussed maybe putting little seahorses to incorporate with the Arts Alley mural and maybe do something that would let kids use for a scavenger hunt type theme. Chad Bartz said this is an ongoing topic since he has been on the committee. He said there are 2 primary places people come into Fairhope; he said he thinks there needs to be something 2 to 3 blocks out telling people where the parking garage is. Bryan Flowers talked about the importance of advertisement in the visitors guide and on social media. Paige said the city has Christian Price helping with project giving guidance on way finding across the board, including lit up parking with arrows and way finding signs that could be incorporated 2 to 3 blocks out. Chad Bartz agreed way finding signs would be a great idea. Chief Hollinghead asked about crosswalk signs. Morgan Slay agreed that is something that is needed downtown. Paige also mentioned the Gaston Plaza and that the construction crew is making headway on that project. The city is hoping to have that project wrapped up in 60 to 90 days.

Bryan Flowers asked Paige about what was going to happen with the deck at the Little Whisky. Paige said she did not know at this point. Morgan Slay stated that the agreement stated that if the name was changed or if anything changed the deck had to be removed.

The question from the committee is who enforces the term of the agreement. Slay stated the agreement is between the building owner, Single Tax Colony, and the Parking Authority.

Chief Hollinghead stated she would check the status of the payments to make sure they are up to date and to obtain a copy of the agreement and forward it to the Parking Authority Committee members.

Chad Bartz and Bryan Flowers inquired as to if the leaser is aware of the agreement. Morgan Slay was not sure but he knew the lease holder was aware because they signed the agreement. Chief Hollinghead will talk with the Mayor and get an update.

Chief Hollinghead informed the Committee that the Council approved of amending the by-laws to reflect members may be removed from the Parking Authority Committee after missing 2 consecutive meetings. The committee was asked how they want to proceed with removing any member that falls within the guidelines. Randy Williams resigned from the Committee, therefore there is a vacant position.

Bryan Flowers inquired on the status of Pine Street to make it one-way. It has been approved by Council but there is not a timeline as to when that project will start. The committee discussed the parking spots on pine (angled parking, how many, creating more parking spaces).

The committee requested an update on the Loading/Unloading in front of Tamera's. This project is still under discussion.

The committee discussed the possibility of making the 15 minutes more visible.

Josh Turner asked that the handicap spot at the corner Clock Plaza be widened due to a complaint he received.

Brian Flowers discussed approaching the churches for the use of their parking lots to provide extra parking downtown. A discussion he and the Mayor had previously about getting a kiosk and having an agreement with the churches.

Set the next meeting date: October 30, 2023, at 8:00 am.

Adjourn