

APPROVED
Minnetonka Beach Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2019

1. Call to Order

Chair Haag called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

2. Roll Call

Present: Chair Haag, Vice Chair Moriarty, Commissioners Anderson, Breazeale, Halverson, Howarth and Council Liaison Enlow. Absent: Naylor

Staff in attendance: Susanne Griffin, City Administrator

3. Approve Agenda

(Moriarty motion, Anderson second to approve the agenda; all ayes). Motion passed.

4. Approve Minutes: March 18, 2019

(Anderson motion, Moriarty second to approve the minutes of the regular Planning Commission meeting of March 18, 2019, all ayes). Motion passed.

5. PUBLIC HEARING

5.1. Extend Permit Parking Only on Lafayette Road from Beach to 2505 Lafayette Road

Chair Haag provided an overview of how this topic came to the Planning Commission. Parking was in the top three transportation issues identified in the 2016 Transportation Study, particularly parking near the swimming beach, and permit parking. It was proposed to extend the "permit parking only" in this area. Residents in the area found that vehicles were parking on the street and when vehicles were parked on Lafayette Road there were obstructed views at Huntington Point Road West.

Chair Haag opened the public hearing at 7:07 p.m.

Chris Bank - 2536 Lafayette Road, stated that with a small geographic community and the privacy that is valued as a community, he appreciates the proposal and he would be affected. Permit parking seems to be a great way to keep the beach area open for residents who use the beach. He lives across from the beach and would be negatively affected in that friends would have to park further away. They have a small lot with limited parking onsite. The alternative for friends would be to park on Huntington Point Road West or further down on Lafayette Road. He suggested no change to the permit parking and would encourage better communication such as encouraging dock permit holders at the beach to park at their property. He would rather communicate a message of respect and common sense and as opposed to more regulations. He thinks providing temporary permits would complicate matters.

Jillian Moriarty – 2203 Huntington Point Road West

She stated that this intersection is really a four-way but only has two stop signs. She also stated that people on the corner of Lafayette and too close to corner/stop sign. She would prefer that the parking near stop signs be enforced.

Wayne Ramaker - 2528 Lafayette Road

He stated is concerned about the corner and when vehicles parked at corner of Lafayette and Huntington Point Road W. visibility is an issue. Also, when vehicle park on the street rather than on the grass off the road itself, it's more difficult to get in and out of his driveway, the street is narrow there.

Jillian Moriarty spoke again and stated that they have lost part of their yard with people parking on Lafayette Road. She said they offered to the city to purchase part of their lot and make the road wider. She stated her priority is to put residents first, guests second.

John Whitaker – 2200 Huntington Point Road West

He said that the stakeholders of the corner are in attendance and appreciates the open communication. He understands the issue of communication with existing residents and dock holders and their guests parking in front of the beach and in the surrounding area. He would like permit parking in front of his house too because people park in his yard too, but the main concern is traffic density and safety in the area. There are lots of kids in the area now and with vehicles parked in that area it causes problems. He stated that he suggested shutting down Lafayette Road sometime ago. Adding more permit parking just shifts the density down the road.

Chair Haag closed public hearing at 7:20 pm

Chair Haag stated that after hearing the public comments he believes there should be something done about parking at that corner. Because there is no stop sign at the corner there may be a need to add a stop sign. He likes the idea of handling this with neighborly communication and agrees that it is a problem area. They discussed enforcement of parking in the area.

Commissioner Anderson asked Chris Bank about where he would suggest people park. He understands the problem of the area, and if permit parking were extended, people would have to park further away.

Commissioners discussed the legal distance to park from intersections. Halverson stated that the state law is 30 feet from stop sign and 20 feet from intersection, so it was discussed to post no parking here to corner signs, but if that is already the law, they need increased enforcement in the area.

Commissioner Moriarty stated that when this was brought up originally the main issue was the busier intersection with 13-14 kids that live in the area. The people parking on Lafayette by Moriarty's are likely not residents. There are times when the permit parking is open and folks are parked on Lafayette instead. Commissioner Breazeale stated that extending the permit parking only moves the parking down the road and it becomes almost preferential. They talked about Ray Peters park which is permit parking only in the parking lot.

Jillian Moriarty spoke again and stated that her perspective is extending permit parking moves parkers further down the public road versus parking on her yard.

Commissioner Howarth brought up the idea of providing additional permits to residents for guests.

Commissioner Anderson stated she wanted to focus on safety at this intersection. She believes it is a dangerous intersection and that visibility is affected. If they enforced the state statute of 30 feet from the stop sign, that would keep parking further away from the intersection.

Commissioners also talked about marking all intersections with the 30 feet rule. Commissioners also discussed increased enforcement with parking within 30 feet of stop signs and notifying residents that it will be enforced. They also discussed self-policing with property owners asking their guests to be respectful of where they park.

Council Liaison Enlow asked for clarification on whether they were talking about all intersections within the city and brought up Palm Lane and Beach Lane where folks are consistently parking near the intersection. They also talked about people parking near fire lane. Resident John Whitaker stated these parkers are not likely residents but are people using the docks.

Commissioner Anderson liked the idea of posting signs that say parking restrictions will be enforced and if folks get tickets, that may resolve the issue. She would like to concentrate on the problem areas and enforcement.

Moriarty asked getting temporary parking permits and Griffin explained that there isn't a provision for that in existing policy or ordinance. Halverson suggested that a Beachcomber article be written about this issue: consideration of neighbors, city will be enforcing, etc.

Anderson motion, Howarth second to recommend to the city council that the city post no parking “here to corner” signs 30 feet before stop signs and intersections, at all directions of the Huntington Point Road West and Lafayette Road (including in front of fire lane) intersection. All in favor. Motion passed.

Resident Whitaker asked why they were adding signage to enforce an already existing law. Someone also suggested putting an additional sign on the existing stop sign rather than additional signs that says no parking within 30 feet of stop sign. Then the issue of stenciling on the road came up. It was suggested to stencil the road to say “no parking here to intersection” rather than additional signage.

After further discussion the following motion was made with Commissioner Anderson stating that the subsequent motion superseded her previous motion.

Breazeale motion, Anderson second that due to safety concerns, the Planning Commission recommends to the city council that the road be stenciled with no parking within 30 feet rather than signs, that the parking restriction be enforced and then evaluate the effectiveness at the intersection of Huntington Point Road West and Lafayette Road for possible marking at additional intersections in the future. All in favor. Motion passed.

Resident Moriarty asked about whether they were making any recommendations on the issue of extending permit parking. The Planning Commission made no further recommendations on extending the permit parking.

Chair Haag recommended that a Beachcomber article be written to remind residents in the area and dock slip holders to be courteous of residents and he will mention this to the city council. There was discussion whether the offenders are city residents or not, and the consensus from the public in attendance was that it was not residents.

Anderson reminded commissioners that residents have to call the police when there are violations for this to be effective.

6. OLD BUSINESS

6.1. Zoning Code Amendment: Landscaping and Fence Setbacks

Council Liaison Enlow stated the background of this issue and that the city council referred this to the Planning Commission. She spoke to Beth Elliot at Stantec who suggested talking to other areas with lakes such as the Brainard lakes area for regulations on landscaping and check with DNR. Enlow stated that there isn't any urgency to this issue. Administrator Griffin will check with those areas, and if other communities aren't regulating this then maybe there is a reason and it may not make sense for Minnetonka Beach to regulate landscaping either.

Enlow stated that she did want to discuss the fence setback issue. Chair Haag likes the idea of communication and neighborly way of resolving these issues rather than more regulations.

There should be more information on this issue at the next meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1. 2020 – 2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

Chair Haag stated that this is the opportunity for the Planning Commission to provide input into the 2020 – 2024 CIP. Commissioners discussed the access paths to the new raised median which was submitted by Planning in the past.

Commissioner Halverson suggested possibly including something in the CIP for speed bump maintenance or replacement, and the maintenance of class five surface for the new paths. Since these were more maintenance and not capital projects, they weren't included in the CIP.

Enlow updated members on the Northview Wall reconstruction – budgeted for reconstruction in 2020 and repair for the wall on west Northview Road.

Enlow updated members on the council actions relating to the CIP – trails, wall, and the 2019 infrastructure projects.

Consensus amongst Planning Commissioners was there were no items to add or change in the 2020 – 2024 Capital Improvement Program.

Administrator Griffin explained that due to the slight change in the process of having a Capital Review Committee review the draft plan before the public hearing, that she thought additional time was needed and suggested that the public hearing be delayed one month to June rather than May.

Moriarty motion, Halverson second to move the 2020 – 2024 Capital Improvement Program public to the June 24th Planning Commission meeting and amend the CIP schedule accordingly. All in favor. Motion passed.

8. Reports

- 8.1. Chairperson – Chair Haag had no report –
- 8.2. Commissioner Reports- Commissioner Anderson updated members on her research of the agreements with Three Rivers on the trail – Construction and Performance agreement which required meeting after a year to see if there were any problems to address at that time. A task force did meet after the trail was constructed to discuss issues that were generated from the trail, Boe Carlson met with the task force a couple of times to discuss concerns. Later a bench and trash can were installed. Three rivers park district does enforce the stop signs at intersections on the trail. Three Rivers does come to the council meeting each month to update council on issues with the trail and only issue today is bikers speeding on the trail. Anderson stated she thinks the door can be closed on this in terms of additional regulations to the zoning code discussion. Enlow hears about golf carts and other motorized vehicles allowed on the trail – maybe a good reminder in the beachcomber.
- 8.3. Council Liaison Enlow reported on actions of the April 8, 2019 City Council meeting including: the local board of appeal, as a result the meeting was recessed to April 23rd. She talked about recent crime in neighborhood, solicitors are out and about, and they are required to have a permit so call the police if suspicious activity. Guest speaker Senator Osmeck talked about his authored legislation, controversial bill that would change the authority of the LMCD that would affect marinas and the lake in general – council authorized the mayor to send a letter to legislature not supporting the legislation, LMCC Lundberg - \$1300 grant funds for AV equipment, council agreed to video tape city council meetings, anonymous complaint about city dock permits not being used according to the ordinance, referred to Dock Committee who met April 18th, CC will hold special meeting to decide on two permits, county updates to Tanager Bridge and Arcola Bridge in future.
- 8.4. Building Permit Report – Received and filed.

Resident Mathews thinks there is a confusion about city right of way and that folks should be reminded that people shouldn't park on peoples grass even though it is city right of way.

9. ADJOURNMENT

(Anderson motion, Halverson second to adjourn; all ayes). Motion passed.

Chair Haag adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE – The following individuals signed the sign-in sheet (or were in attendance): Nell Mathews, Chris Bank, Wayne Ramaker, Jillian Moriarty, John Whitaker.

Minutes respectfully submitted by City Administrator Susanne Griffin.

Susanne Griffin, City Administrator