

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Tuesday, January 7, 2003

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Milton Otto, Urbana Council Member
Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer
Eddie Adair, Chief of Police

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shawn Crowley, Parking Enforcement
Jim Hayes, Council Member, Ward 3
Pat Pioletti, Parking and Public Facilities Division Manager
Darrel Foste, 409 West Main Street
Joe Potts, Urbana Park District
Daniel Gibble, Urbana Park District

Meeting began at 4:00 p.m.

Addition to the agenda:

There were no additions:

Approval of the minutes:

Eddie Adair moved to accept the minutes as read. Joe Smith seconded the motion. The Commission voted 3-0 to approve the minutes of December 2002.

Item #1 - Discussion of parking restrictions on Stoughton Street by the Phillips Recreation Center.

Darrel Foste discussed his concerns about parking restrictions on McCullough Street along the east side of the Phillips Recreation Center. He said that the restrictions created a problem for his tenants while parking was prohibited on Springfield Avenue during the winter months. He stated that he had tried to construct a parking lot off of McCullough Street for his tenants, but he was unsuccessful in completing it. He noted that there was parking available for those using the Phillips Recreation Center on Springfield Avenue, Stoughton Street and in a parking lot to the west of the Phillips Center.

Joe Potts stated that the request for 4-hour parking restrictions on McCullough Street was brought to the Traffic Commission after senior patrons of the Urbana Park District asked for

parking closer to the Phillips Center, where many of the senior citizen activities are held.

Daniel Gibble stated that there was a curb cut along the McCullough Street that provided access for those using wheelchairs. Mr. Gibble said that the spaces are the nearest spaces to the James Room, which was donated for senior activities.

Milton Otto asked if the Urbana Park District would be interested in renting spaces in Mr. Foste's parking lot, if he had been able to complete it.

Mr. Gibble said that it would not be financially feasible for the park district to rent spaces.

Mr. Potts stated that its location would not benefit senior patrons. He offered some millings to Mr. Foste if that would help with the preparation of the parking lot surface.

Joe Smith recommended exploring different parking options to determine if there were other solutions that would help both the park district patrons and Mr. Foste's tenants.

Mr. Foste said that he would contact Mr. Potts and Mr. Smith to discuss options.

Eddie Adair moved to continue the discussion of this item at the February Traffic Commission Meeting.

Joe Smith seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

Milton Otto suggested that Mr. Foste discuss the requirements for his parking lot with Community Development to determine what needed to be done to complete that project.

Item #2 - Discussion of parking restrictions on the south side of Main Street in front of the Champaign County Courthouse.

Pat Pioletti discussed the request brought to the Traffic Commission. He stated that the City of Urbana and Champaign County approved an agreement that provided for the removal of parking meters on the south side of Main Street between Vine Street and Broadway Avenue. Mr. Pioletti said that Champaign County had asked the City to eliminate parking in front of the Courthouse from Vine Street to the beginning of the taxi stand to the east of Broadway Avenue. He added that the County was concerned about security issues that might arise from allowing vehicles to

park in front of the building. Mr. Pioletti stated that the Public Works Director had temporarily prohibited parking in that area. Mr. Pioletti asked the Traffic Commission to formalize a recommendation for City Council.

Milton Otto asked if the Champaign County Board had changed their minds about parking design since the temporary restrictions were imposed.

Pat Pioletti stated that the majority of the County Board wanted parking restrictions.

Joe Smith moved to establish a no parking zone along the south side of Main Street from Vine Street to the east end of the taxi stand zone, east of Broadway Avenue.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item will go to Council.

Pat Pioletti mentioned that a delivery area was established on Elm Street.

Item #3 - Discussion of signage for westbound traffic on Green Street east of Wright Street.

Joe Smith discussed a citizen's concern about a lack of signage on Green Street, east of Wright Street to let motorists know that the northernmost westbound lane turned into a "Right Turn Only" lane at Wright Street.

Joe Smith moved to install guide signage on Green Street to inform motorists of changes in traffic patterns at Wright Street.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item does not require Council approval.

Item 4- Discussion of parking restrictions on Florida Avenue from Smith Road to east of Abercorn Street.

Joe Smith stated that the completion of Savannah Green I Subdivision extended Florida Avenue beyond Smith Road. Mr. Smith recommended extending the parking restriction on the south side of Florida Avenue to be consistent with current restrictions.

Joe Smith moved to establish a no parking zone on Florida Avenue from Smith Road to the eastern City limits, east of Abercorn Street.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

Item 5 - Discussion of the installation of speed limit signs on Washington Street for eastbound traffic east of Lierman Avenue and for westbound traffic near Smith Road.

Eddie Adair stated that the principal at Prairie Elementary School had requested more signage in front of the school.

Joe Smith moved to install an additional school speed limit sign for eastbound and one for westbound traffic on Washington Street in front of Prairie Elementary School to define the school speed limit zone.

Eddie Adair seconded the motion.

The motion passed 3-0.

This item does not require Council action.

Eddie Adair discussed the results of the November and December 2002 STEP details (see attached reports).

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 4, 2003 at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Stiehl
Recording Secretary