



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Town Clerk's Office

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2021

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Business and Administrative Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. On roll call, all committee members were found to be present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Crampton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Committee Member Moore and seconded by Chair Crampton. On roll call the Motion passed unanimously.

IV. COMMUNICATION BY MEMBERS

Ms. Moore indicated she was saddened by what was taking place and disturbed by watching the events in Washington DC. She remarked that this was a sad day for our nation and commended Congress for returning to session. She stated that as a representative and an elected official of the Town of Palm Beach she would do her best to maintain civility and listen to both sides of the aisle to try and come up with a solution regarding issues related to the Town of Palm Beach.

V. REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Crampton gave an overview of the various parking issues the committee would be handling and mentioned the goals which will be guiding any deliberations. He indicated this was the second of three public sessions scheduled. He mentioned that there is a mandate from the Town Council to prepare recommendations regarding parking, which is a controversial issue. The Town has asked businesses and individuals for their opinion. Last month the focus was on County Road. Today the discussion would be potential parking regulations in the Royal Poinciana Way area. Next month the discussion would be on Worth

Avenue businesses. The meeting will address residential vs. commercial parking and mentioned that this meeting is specifically regarding parking along Royal Poinciana Way. There has been a number of recommendations which are before the committee, such as expanding paid parking and placard parking. The goal of the meeting is to enhance the Town of Palm Beach quality of life.

A. Recap of Preliminary Regulation Options Related to Parking in the Royal Poinciana Way Area.

Jay Boodheshwar, Deputy Town Manager

Jay Boodheshwar, Deputy Town Manager acknowledged the Committee and staff members who have assisted in handling the parking issues, as well as the residential and business community who participated in the first session for the County Road corridor on December 11, 2020, which included some overlap from Royal Poinciana Way. Mr. Boodheshwar described the geographical area as consisting of all east/west and north/south commercial or quasi-commercial roads between Atlantic Avenue and Royal Poinciana Way. He provided three attachments: attachment A is a spreadsheet listing of all the streets in that area which is being discussed today; attachment B includes the Aerial map, shows the existing paid parking areas; and attachment C includes an aerial map indicating locations of paid and placard parking. He explained that it was decided to focus on the different commercial areas individually.

Mr. Boodheshwar stated that the town was not pushing for immediate changes. The focus is to look at potential changes in regulations or free time limited parking spaces, whether for hours and converting to paid parking at an hourly rate, such as exists in other areas of the town. He explained that in the 100 block of Bradley Place, a section of the block has metered parking and there is an opportunity for expansion. This would include conversion to the metered parking, also there is a placard program in place. The town is proposing to allocate an additional 15 placard parking spaces which would make a total of 23. This would be on a first come first serve basis. The next is Main Street, which is the area behind the old post office. There is a small parking area which is town owned. He noted that staff had mentioned this area at the last meeting. This area overlaps with County Road Corridor and has become the site for parking for Uber and Lyft drivers. This area is being used for free. Staff is proposing paid parking in this area. Most of the area in North County was recently converted to metered parking.

Mr. Boodheshwar spoke regarding the parking issues and referred to the spreadsheet provided in the backup. He mentioned the different parking rates on certain streets and suggested that for consistency, parking rates should be the same. He presented several maps showing the different paid parking programs.

Royal Poinciana Way is a bifurcated road with the median in the middle, with many parking spaces, there is a combination of one and two hour parking, with some handicapped spaces as well as loading zone spaces. Mr. Boodheshwar stated the consideration is to convert the free time limited spaces to a metered pay parking to create turnover. Mr. Boodheshwar continued to review the spreadsheet and noted

that the 100 block of Sunrise Avenue was recently converted from limited to metered parking at \$5/hour with a time limit of two hours which could be purchased, this would create a turnover. The 200 block of Sunrise is a busy area, with many time limited one hour parking, and there is free parking on this block. Staff suggests changing to metered parking. Sunset Avenue has many parking spaces. Mr. Boodheshwar showed an aerial view of the parking.

Discussion ensued regarding the different types of parking, kiosks, placards, metered and time-limited. Beach access was discussed as well as the look of the kiosks, underground parking lots and space sharing.

Benjamin Alma, indicated the completion of the survey will begin the end of January.

B. Community Input Related to Existing and/or Potential Parking Regulations in the Royal Poinciana Way Area (3 Minutes Please)

Chair Crampton opened to public comment.

The following residents/business owners spoke:

Francis Frisbee, representing the Main Street Association, expressed appreciation to the council for arranging the meeting and mentioned that she was encouraged by the different studies being evaluated.

Chair Crampton stated the committee is waiting for the retail study as well at the survey, and this will be shared once received.

C. Committee Discussion and Q&A with Staff and Meeting Participants

Mr. Boodheshwar thanked all the participants for their input

Chair Crampton thanked the staff for the research and resources provided to the committee regarding the parking issue. He suggested that the next workshop should focus on Worth Avenue.

Member Moore also thanked the staff and participants for their input, and stated she would like to get to a conclusion before the March meeting, and have a report and recommendations to submit to the Town Council. She would like to have the consistency of the same team members.

Mr. Boodheshwar announced there have been questions regarding the North County corridor and the pressures they have been getting from the beach area. There is one block of Dunbar which had unrestricted parking. The parking enforcement team carried out a study to see if this block qualified for residential permit parking (RPP). The neighbors petitioned the town to convert to the RPP, which passed, neighbors have been advised they were qualified for the RPP.

Chair Crampton thanked the business community for their participation and announced that the next meeting will be held on January 26, 2021.

Member Moore mentioned that the meeting will be held via Zoom as the Council Chambers will be undergoing a technology upgrade.

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS - None

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Committee Member Moore and seconded by Chair Crampton to adjourn the Business and Administrative Committee Meeting of January 7, 2021 at 10:15 a.m.

APPROVED:

Lewis S.W. Crampton, Chair

ATTEST:

Queenester Nieves, CMC, Town Clerk

Date