

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

**PARKING COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
PACKET**

January 2020

Thursday, January 30, 2020
Hooker Conference Room
5:30 PM — 7:00 PM

Next Regular Meeting: February 27, 2020, 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM, Hooker Room, City Hall

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

PARKING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

AGENDA

January 30, 2020, 5:30 PM — 7:00 PM
Hooker Room, City Hall

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Reports from Commissioners & City Offices
 - A. Reminder of Commission Terms and Elections (Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary)
- IV. Reports from the Public
 - A. American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFL-CIO Letter)
- V. Discussions of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions
 - A. Discussion about Visitor Parking Permits (Adrienne Evans Fernandez)
 - B. Discussion about FlexePark (Adrienne Evans Fernandez)
 - C. Discussion about Monetizing Some Parking Lots Near Campus (Tracy Gates)
- VI. Resolutions
- VII. Topic Suggestions for Future Agendas
- VIII. Member Announcements
- IX. Commission Schedule
- X. Adjournment

Auxiliary aids for people with disabilities are available upon request with advance notice.
Please call (812) 349-3429 or E-mail human.rights@bloomington.in.gov.

Next Regular Meeting: February 27, 2020 -- 5:30 PM
Deadline for regular meeting packet material is February 17, 2020

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

PARKING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

November 21, 2019, 5:30 PM

Hooker Room, City Hall

Parking Commission minutes are transcribed in a summarized outline manner. Audio recordings of the meeting are available in the Planning and Transportation Department for reference.

Attendance

Adrienne Evans Fernandez (Chair), Tracy Gates, Eoban Binder, Beth Rosenbarger (Proxy for Scott Robinson), Peter Dvorak, Wayne Chandler, Amanda Turnipseed (IU), Raye Ann Cox (Public Works), Karina Pazos, SeyedAmir Kaboli Farshchi (Staff)

I. Call to Order – (~5:33 PM)

II. Approval of Minutes – October 24, 2019 – Mr. Binder motioned to approve the minutes and Ms. Evans Fernandez seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

III. Reports from Commissioners & City Offices – None

IV. Reports from the Public

Mr. Dvorak discussed his apartment building is excluded by the new ordinance to receive neighborhood residential parking permit and visitor parking permit in Zone 4. He talked about other properties in Zone 4 that are eligible for Zone 4 permits and compared them with his property. Ms. Evans Fernandez said the commissioners need to talk about the visitor parking permits in the future meetings to find a solution and recommendation to Common Council for consideration.

Mr. Chandler talked about FlexePark and explained parking spots that were once designated "No Parking" zones can now be made available for public use after business hours.

V. Discussions of Topics Not the Subject of Resolutions

A. 2020 Parking Commission Meeting Schedule

Mr. Farshchi presented the 2020 Parking Commission Meeting Schedule and the consensus of the Commission supported staff moving forward with using the Schedule.

B. Editing the 2017 Annual Report

Ms. Evans Fernandez talked about the progress of the 3rd draft of the 2017 Annual Report.

VI. Resolutions

A. Parking Resolution 19-05 - Woodlawn Avenue – Revise Current On-Street Parking Configuration to Improve Safety

Ms. Pazos discussed reconfiguring the existing on-street parking along Woodlawn Avenue by restricting parking on the west side of the street and allowing parking on the east side of the street.

Discussion: safety issues; traffic calming; accidents; traffic volume; complaint

Ms. Rosenbarger motioned to approve the staff recommendation and Mr. Binder seconded the motion. **The motion passed 4-0**

VII. Topic Suggestions for Future Agendas

- A. Discussion about Visitor Parking Permits (Adrienne Evans Fernandez)
- B. Discussion about FlexePark (Adrienne Evans Fernandez)
- C. Discussion about Monetizing Parking Lots (Tracy Gates)

VIII. Member Announcements – None

IX. Commission Schedule – Next meeting – December 12, 2019

X. Adjournment – (~6:30 PM)



RECEIVED

JUL 31 2019

*American Federation of
State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO*

July 25, 2019

Mayor John Hamilton
City of Bloomington, Indiana
401 N Morton St
Bloomington, IN 47404

Re: Monroe County Public Library Employee Parking

Dear Mayor Hamilton,

AFSCME Council 962 and its Bloomington area Locals submit this letter in the hope that you and/or the Bloomington Common Council will sit down with employees of the Monroe County Public Library ("MCPL") in an effort to address upcoming changes to the parking availability for MCPL employees covered under a collective bargaining agreement between the Library Board and AFSCME Local 2802.

On September 12, 2018, the Bloomington Common Council passed Ordinance 18-11 to amend Title 15 of the Bloomington Municipal Code. The relevant amended Chapters include 15.32, 15.36, 15.37, 15.40, 15.48, and 15.64. The stated goals of the ordinance were to "Clarify Placement on On-Street Parking Space;" "Adjust the Boundaries of Neighborhood Parking Zone and the Fees Associated With the Same;" "Adjust the Time and Rates for Parking in Off Street Facilities;" "Make Minor Changes Reflecting the Administration of this Section;" and "Increase the Fine for a Class D Traffic Violation."

In the ensuing time, the ramifications of this ordinance have played themselves out and, subsequently, raised serious concerns about the availability of low cost and free parking options for our members at MCPL. From a pragmatic standpoint, our concern is that members of AFSCME Local 2802 are being asked to absorb parking costs that are unsustainable for low wage workers and that seemingly no specific efforts were made by the City to accommodate for those costs. Specifically, our part-time members, who generally work 20-25 hours per week and make less than \$15 an hour, are being asked to pay an unduly burdensome monthly parking fee at City garages.

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American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

It is our understanding that the following changes are being made that will adversely affect the current transportation situation for library employees:

1. The number of available neighborhood parking spots will be dramatically decreased as the city installs metered parking in the area surrounding the library;
2. The yet unknown changes to the Bloomington Transit system may not provide employees with access to timely public transportation options; and
3. The cost of the parking garages within walking distance of the library will rise in August and continue to rise periodically over the next few years.

We believe the City failed to make appropriate accommodations to alleviate the resultant economic distress caused by its policy changes and that a good faith effort to stem that distress must be undertaken. We would like to acknowledge that the City recently responded to concerns for the library about decreasing the number of parking passes allotted to the library employees, but that does not ultimately solve the problem. Because the passes only cover about half MCPL's employees and priority is given to full time employees, the most economically unstable employees will still bear the brunt of the changes. This is only exasperated by the planned rate hikes for city garages.

We all know that public libraries are a public good necessary for delivering essential services to our community. With that in mind, library employees accept low wages because they believe in public libraries. When we fail to make proper accommodations for the economic burdens imposed on our already financially strapped public servants, we place our cherished institutions in a compromised position in which necessary resources are not available to meet our obligations to our community and the patrons we serve. We do not question the intent of the Common Council when it changed the downtown parking situation, but we also believe that less than sufficient accommodation was made for the public servants affected by the changes.

Over the course of our discussion on this issue, Jane Ruddick, a member of Local 2802 produced a quote from an October 15, 1992 *Herald Times* article:

"City council members agreed Wednesday night to forward a letter to the library board expressing their strong desire to have the library remain in the downtown area. Councilman John Fernandez suggested the letter. 'That library serves as a real anchor and magnet to bring people into our downtown,' Fernandez said. 'Moving it from the core area of the city would be a devastating decision.' The letter will express the

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council's 'eagerness to help in any way we can to facilitate the decision to stay in the downtown,' councilman Jack Hopkins said. At a hearing earlier this month, Bloomington Mayor Tomi Allison appealed to the board to keep the library in the downtown area."

According to another member, Stephanie Holman, who was present at the community meetings about moving the library in 1992, several locations for a new library were proposed, but community members demanded that the library remain downtown. As a result of that community pressure, the library remained in its current location with the promise of a new parking garage that never materialized. We believe the Mayor and Common Council should honor this commitment without placing undue burdens on low wage workers who have committed years of their lives to serving this community.

With that in mind, we request that the Mayor and/or members of the Bloomington Common Council meet with members of AFSCME, Local 2802 with a commitment to moderate the burden being placed on our members. We believe in our public library system, but we also believe that punishing our most economically vulnerable public servants does not serve the best interests of this community and that small compromises may alleviate our concerns.

Thank you in advance for your response. We admire and support the work that all of Bloomington's public servants do to better our community and the citizens they serves.

Sincerely,

David Robertson, Executive Director
AFSCME Council 962

Michael Torres, President
AFSCME Council 962

Elizabeth French, President
AFSCME, Local 2802 (Monroe Co Library)

Levi Combs, President
AFSCME Local 2487 (City of Bloomington)

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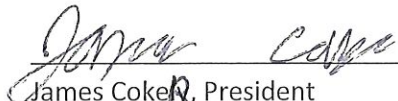
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James Coke, President
AFSCME, Local 613 (Bloomington Transit)


Randy Tackett, President
AFSCME, Local 3995 (Monroe Co Schools)


Micheal Barker, President
AFSCME, Local 832 (IU Service/Maintenance)


Chad Anderson, Secretary-Treasurer
AFSCME, Local 1567 (Monroe Co Hwy)

CC:

Bloomington Common Council Members: Hon. Dorothy Granger, Hon. Dave Rollo, Hon. Steve Volan, Hon. Allison Chopra, Hon. Andy Ruff, Hon. Isabel Piedmont-Smith, Hon. Chris Sturbaum, Hon. Jim Sims, and Hon. Susan Sandberg

Monroe County Commissioners: Hon. Lee Jones, Hon. Julie Thomas, and Hon. Penny Githens

Monroe County Public Library Trustees: John Walsh, Christine Harrison, David Ferguson, Fred Risinger, Jaime Burkhardt, Kari Isaacson Esarey, and Katherine Loser

City of Bloomington Parking Commissioners: Dave Debikey, Adrienne Evans-Fernandez, Tracy Gates, Mark Need, Scott Robinson, Stephen Volan, and Celeste Wolfinger

Bloomington Herald-Times

Indiana Daily Student

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