Transportation and Parking Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2007
Darden-126

Committee Members:
Present: Ron Price (chair), George Cahen, Bill Ashby, Carole Lohman, Len Schoppa, Becca White, Tom Leback, Jo Lawson, Marci Stewart, Tomer Vandsburger

Absent: Michael Coleman, Alan Cohn, Mark Fletcher, Reba Camp

Guests:
Andy Mansfield, Associate Director, Parking and Transportation
Nicole Smith (assisting P & T with minutes)

Proceedings:
• Meeting was called to order at 2:15 pm by Chair, Ron Price
• March minutes were reviewed and approved with corrections

Old Business:
• CTS Open Ridership Program- Becca White clarified that this program will continue through June of 2008 with full expectations of continuing. In an effort to increase awareness of the program, it will be mentioned on all permit renewal forms being mailed out. CTS is polling the numbers and will report them to P & T once a month. If available, April’s numbers will be presented to the committee at the May 9, 2007 meeting.
• Salary Based Permit Fees- Provost Employee Council is still working on the project. No proposal has been forwarded at this time.

New Business:
• Emmet/Ivy Storage-recently there was an email sent out with regard to the lower two levels of the garage filling up rapidly due to students parking cars that should be on the top two floors designated for vehicle storage. The patron felt that the increased parking permit rates were unwarranted due to perceived storage issues and an unfair level of service. Becca White responded directly to the patron via email and assured the committee that enforcement regarding the issue would be addressed. Ron Price suggested that students who will be using the garage for vehicle storage purposes be given a different color permit so that violators could be quickly and easily identified.
• East Stairway Door at Emmet/Ivy Garage- there are concerns that this door remains locked to those trying to re-enter during business hours. The police have already stated that this is a safety precaution. It will be reviewed with Safety and Security and discussed at the next meeting.
• **Student Concerns**- a list of student concerns (provided by Marci Stewart) was reviewed. The top concerns consisted of inadequate parking and students receiving tickets due to unclear communication regarding rules and regulations. It is felt that better signage/communications would help alleviate some of the confusion. Safety is also an issue, specifically the students would like to see Safe Ride extend hours and have more vans (currently students may have to wait up to half an hour for a ride and they stand alone at a bus stop which is not safe). Students would also like to see better lit bus stops. Students would like to see better bike route maps. Becca White informed the group that new maps are currently being worked on and will bring one to the next meeting for all to see. Ron also mentioned that it would be beneficial to have “Bike Safety” posters near all of the bike racks to remind students of things such as the importance of wearing helmets and obeying all traffic laws.

Tomer Vandsburger also brought a few concerns from the 2nd year council. Turning right is difficult on Grady to Rugby because cars pull up too far instead of stopping at the stop bar. Lambeth has no Northbound bus stop and this is something the students would appreciate. Also, students who live on the corner and are taking a bus from Cabell, oftentimes have a 40 minute bus ride due to traffic from 4-6 pm. There was also clarification provided regarding 1st tickets being warning tickets. 1st tickets are considered a warning only IF there has been no ticket issued within the past twelve months and the fine is less than $100. Becca will look into all of the student concerns discussed and report back at the next meeting.

• **GPS on UTS**- CTS has signed a contract with a provider of this service, Connexionz. If UVA is interested in purchasing the same service, it would be beneficial to purchase within the next 120 days so that UTS can piggyback on the CTS contract, thus, cutting down the costs for both entities. In order to pay for this initiative, which totals over $500K in capital costs and approximately $60K in annual operating costs, the Comprehensive Transportation Fee that students pay would need to increase. It was suggested by the committee that since faculty and staff will also benefit from this service the parking permit fees should increase as well. Becca White met with the Parent’s Committee who may have grant money available to support part of this initiative. P&T has not included any expenditure in the 2007/2008 budget, but Connexionz is willing to spread the costs over 5 years. This willingness coupled with Parent’s Committee grant could allow P&T to proceed quickly. The T & P committee unanimously approves of installing GPS with Ron Price putting together a resolution. Included in the resolution will be a clearly defined statement that fees will go up as a result. Ron Price will prepare the resolution and email it to the committee members for approval.

Meeting concluded at 3:15 pm. The next meeting will be May, 9th at 2:00 pm. The agenda for the next meeting will include Becca White’s response to the student concerns, CTS Ridership number, and a visit from Yoke San Reynolds, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.