



CITY OF CHELSEA, MA  
Traffic and Parking Commission

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Resident Member  
Carolyn P. Boumila-Vega  
Resident Member  
Brian Wagner  
Resident Member

Minutes of July 28, 2020

The meeting of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission was held via video conference in the Planning and Development Conference Room, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, Massachusetts. The meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Sergeant John Nofle. Members present were, Department of Public Works Commissioner Fidel Maltez, Assistant Director of Planning and Development Alex Train. The following members were present via video: Deputy Fire Chief Richard Perisie and resident member Carolyn Boumila-Vega and resident member Aaron Kraemer.

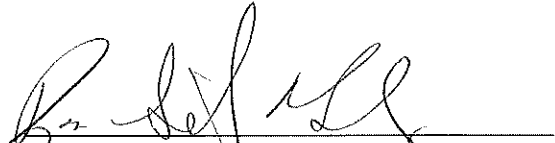
*Item # 1 - Communication of July 22, 2020 from Louie Gonzalez of Chelsea Prospers, requesting the approval of site plans for permanent outdoor seating parklets of four restaurants in the downtown area through November 1, 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic.*

Mimi Graney stated that there are three restaurants in the downtown area looking to set up outdoor seating parklets. She went onto say that they would like to be able to have them open the same hours as the restaurant. They are also looking to leave the staging setup seven days a week, twenty four hours a day. Alex Train stated that the businesses are working with Licensing on liquor licenses. He stated that his concern would drivers who double park. He suggests that the Police Department and the Parking Enforcement Officers would need to keep a close eye on it. Louie Gonzalez, of Chelsea Prospers, stated that he met with the business owners and there were only three establishments are interested. He believes there will be no more requests. John Nofle asked how long it would take to set up the platforms and to dismantle them. He is concerned with leaving them set up overnight. Mimi Graney stated that building the platforms would take a day. The materials are too heavy to move around. She stated that it would take too long to take them apart and setup daily. Fidel Maltez is concerned about liter. The platforms will prevent the street sweeper from being able to clean those areas. He asked if the restaurants are committed to keeping the area clean. Louie Gonzalez responded he is aware of the concern and will clean the area. Fidel Maltez confirmed that Boston is practicing these parklets. He stated that he is an active patron of some of these restaurants and it would be nice to enjoy outdoor dining. It would be a big change for the city. He stated that these businesses are Chelsea people and he believes they would keep it looking nice. He stated we should welcome the idea. Carolyn Boumila-Vega agrees it would be a nice change. She believes it would be a lot of work to set up on a daily basis. She asked when the season would end. Mimi Graney stated that it would depend on the weather. She stated that some businesses are looking into heaters. Alex Train commented that the city is doing a lot of work in the downtown area. They depend on the businesses to work with the city. It should stimulate foot traffic in the downtown area. Mimi Graney went on to say that businesses are concerned with speeding. She stated that they would like to see more Police presence in the area. Businesses are looking to extend the request by more than thirty days. Fidel Maltez stated that this should be a thirty day pilot plan. He stated that they should inform the businesses so that the success of the program depends on them. Fidel Maltez stated that the Commission will evaluate the success after thirty days. Richard Perisie asked how they would set up the barrel barriers. He went on to say that his concern is would the pallets and barrels be good enough to protect the children and families eating at these restaurants. Fidel Maltez stated that there would be fifty gallon drums full of water in the direction of traffic. Richard Perisie stated that the



fire department will have an opinion about using heaters outside. He stated that they would need to go through the proper channels to get permitting to do so. He stated the concerns would be with the fuel and storage. Mimi Graney stated she talked to the business owners and they are aware of the permitting process. Alex Train made a motion to accept the request with a thirty day pilot program with the effective date being the issuance of the first occupancy permit. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30 pm.



Rosa Santiago Melendez  
Assistant Parking Clerk