



CITY OF CHELSEA, MA
Traffic and Parking Commission

City Hall, 500 Broadway, Room 209 · Chelsea, MA 02150
Phone: 617.466-4054 · Fax: 617.466-4059 · Email: rsantiago@chelseama.gov

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CHELSEA, MA

2020 DEC 15 A 8:31

Police Chief Brian A. Kyes
Chair

Sergeant John Nofle

Acting Chair

Rosa Santiago Melendez

Secretary

Lenard Albanese

Fire Chief

Fidel Maltez

Commissioner of Department Public Works

Alex Train

Director of Community & Housing Development

Aaron Kraemer

Resident Member

Carolyn P. Boumila-Vega

Resident Member

Minutes of the November 10, 2020 meeting.

The meeting of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission was held in the City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, Massachusetts. The meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Sergeant John Nofle. Department of Public Works Commissioner Fidel Maltez, Director of Housing and Community Development Alex Train, Deputy Fire Chief Richard Perisie and resident members: Carolyn Boumila-Vega and Aaron Kraemer were present.

Item #1 – Approval of the minutes from the October 6, 2020 meeting.

Alex Train made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 6, 2020 meeting. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #2 – 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. *Commission to review the results of the thirty day pilot program extension for Tijuana's Restaurant that was approved on September 8, 2020.*

Alex Train stated that the pilot program for the restaurants was approved during the Covid-19 pandemic but only a small amount of restaurants participated. He stated that the Commission gave the restaurant owners the option to set up parklets for outdoor dining on a trial basis. He stated that a couple of the restaurants in the area only set up tables on the sidewalks for outdoor dining. He stated that there was no activity on the parklets. He went on to say he would like to hear the Commission's thoughts on the program. Fidel Maltez stated that only a couple of the restaurants took the option to put a couple of tables on the sidewalks. He stated that the restaurant owners had requested for outdoor dining parklets and the Commission approved it on a trial basis. He stated that it is not necessary to continue with the program because a lot of the restaurants found it to be more work than needed. He stated that some of the restaurants found that placing a couple of tables on the sidewalks met their needs. Fidel Maltez made a motion to cancel this request as it was no longer needed. Carolyn Boumila-Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #3 – Communication of September 14, 2020 from Councilor Recuperero, requesting the Commission to look into removing the one-way sign between Essex Street, Shurtleff Street and Congress Avenue.

Fidel Maltez stated that he met with Deputy Fire Chief Richard Perisie and Councilor Giovanni Recuperero at the site. He and the Deputy Fire Chief are concerned with the fire apparatus not being able to make the left turn from Essex Street onto Shurtleff Street. They explained to Councilor Recuperero that in order to make that area a two way street they would have to eliminate five to six parking spaces. He stated that Councilor Recuperero did not want to eliminate parking spaces in the area for the residents. He stated that Councilor Recuperero decided not to pursue this request. Deputy Chief Richard Perisie stated that he had brought the ladder fire truck to the location on the day they met to see if there were any concerns making the turn. He stated that in order to make the turn safely with two way traffic they would need to eliminate five to six parking spaces. He stated that Councilor Recuperero was not in favor. He stated that he also spoke to the principal of the Early Learning Center who is not in favor of this request. He also clarified with Councilor Recuperero that at the last commission meeting the fire department was supposedly against this request (but it is not true). He stated that firefighter Stephen Waxman who spoke at the public hearing on February 4, 2020 was speaking as a resident, business owner and a homeowner of Chelsea. He stated that Mr. Waxman was not representing the fire department. Fidel Maltez stated that the request has been withdrawn per Councilor Recuperero. No vote taken.

Item #4 – Communication of September 30, 2020 from Michael O'Shea, requesting the Commission to look into installing a stop sign, speed bump or other traffic calming measures on Addison Street, between Carter and Maple Street.



Nicky Enriquez, of 124 Addison Street, stated that she wanted to thank the Commission for installing the speed monitor. She stated that it has slowed down the traffic but vehicles speed up once they pass the monitor. Michael O'Shea, of 124 Addison Street, stated that the speed monitor is a great addition but feels it should be moved a little further down the street. Alex Train stated he wanted to thank the residents for their concerns and investment in the neighbor traffic calming issues. He stated since our last meeting the city was able to secure a proposal from our traffic engineering consultant to conduct a traffic calming study on Addison and Orange Street. He stated that the city should have recommendations by the end of November that could be presented to the commission at our next meeting in December. He stated that the city should have measurers by next spring to slow down traffic on a permanent basis. Alex Train made a motion to table this item until the December meeting. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #5 - Communication of October 28, 2019, from Mustapha Et-Talk, a request to convert metered parking spaces to a commercial loading zone in front of 306 Broadway.

Mustapha Et-Talk, of 306 Broadway, stated that he had brought this request to the Commission last year and was denied but now with the new restrictions on Broadway it is getting more difficult to receive his deliveries. He stated with the implementation of the new bus/bike lane and not being able to double park his vendors are refusing to make deliveries. He stated that his drivers are not able to park close to the store so he is unable to receive merchandise. Alex Train stated that with the implementation of the new bus/bike lane the city has had more enforcement to eliminate double parking on Broadway. He stated that the major violators of double parking on Broadway are trucks loading and unloading. Fidel Maltez stated that by adding more loading zones the trucks making deliveries would be able to stop double parking. He stated that he was in favor of the request and that we should look into other businesses in the city that might need additional loading zones. Alex Train made a motion to move this request to a public hearing and to look into other areas that would be suitable for loading zones. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item #6 - Communication of October 19, 2020, from Maura Coyle of Centerboard Inc., requesting a reconsideration on a parking alternative for their company program van as they are no longer eligible for any parking permits due to recent amendments of the Resident Parking Program regulations.

Mark DeJoie, of Centerboard Inc., stated that they own a building at 848 Broadway which houses with ten teen mothers and ten children. He stated that they have a company transport van which is parked at the property at all times to be available for transporting at any time. He stated that in the past they were able to purchase a non-resident sticker but due to the new changes to the regulations they are no longer able to do that. He stated that their main office is located in Lynn and the vehicle is registered out of that office. He stated that they are not able to change the registration due to insurance purposes. He stated that he is looking to see if the Commission could make some kind of exemption to allow them to be able to receive a parking permit for this vehicle. Fidel Maltez stated that the city has done a study on commercial vehicles parked in the city. Due to resident complaints regarding issues with the lack of parking in their neighborhoods, the city has made several changes to the citywide resident parking program. He stated that these changes were approved by the City Council and Commission to help with the parking issues in the city. He stated that it would be difficult to make an exception for one company and not others. He stated that the company would need to look into changing the vehicle registration to the Chelsea location to comply with the regulations. Mark DeJoie stated that he will speak with the staff and try to see if there is a way to comply with the regulation of the parking program. Fidel Maltez stated that he would try to work with Centerboard to come up with an alternative. Fidel Maltez made a motion to deny the request and to work with Centerboard on other options. Richard Perisie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Rosa Santiago Melendez
Assistant Parking Clerk