

Approved Wellfleet Parking Task Force Minutes 2-5-2020

The Wellfleet **Parking Task Force II** (PTF) held a public meeting on Wednesday, February 5th, 2020 at the Senior Center. The meeting started at 5:05 PM. A video of this meeting is not available.

Members Present Denny O'Connell, Wayne Clough, Ginny Parker, Dan Murray, Wil Sullivan, Shelia Lyons, Joe Aberdale and Bruce Katcher,

Regrets Dale Donovan **Review of Correspondence** None

Announcements, Open Session & Public Comment None. Specific comments can be submitted to our Wellfleet municipal email address of parkingtaskforce@wellfleet-ma.gov.

Minutes The 12-18-2019 Parking Task Force minutes were reviewed and approved and will be posted to the towns Parking Task Force web link.

Meeting with Town Parking Violation Hearing Officer

Jenifer Kane, Wellfleet's Parking Violation Hearing Officer, met with us and provided insight into her duties. She provided some suggestions that might help reduce the number of tickets being written and the need for appeals. Jennifer has been doing this job for four years, in addition to her duties as Wellfleet's Assistant Assessor.

Process Jennifer typically spends 6-8 hours per week in processing written appeals from June through October. In addition, she holds a hearing, as needed, weekly at the Wellfleet Fire Station on Tuesday's from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM for those that want to appeal their tickets in person. If the outcome of the hearing is not satisfactory to the person who received the violation notice, they can appeal it in Municipal Court. Typically, 80-90% of the parking violations that are appealed are waived. If violators are reasonable, Jennifer tries to accommodate.

Major issues raised by violators are as follow:

- Failure to see or understand the existing signage at the Marina, Beaches, Ponds, Indian Neck access road and Downtown.
- All lots only have signs noting stickers are required form 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. However, some beachgoers assume they do not need a parking permit if there is no parking lot attendant at the ponds or bayside beaches. Having attendants at all the lots would probably result in less tickets. However, staffing all the beaches and pond lots is costly and a problem towards the end of the summer as some lot attendants leave early to get back to school. Providing additional signage that the lots are monitored, even when no gate attendant is present, could result in less violations being issued. It could also reduce the amount of time needed to process appeals.

Appeals Those that appeal their violations are notified of Jennifer's decisions by mail. If the violation is not waived, Jennifer provides highlighted copies of the laws relating to the violation. At the hearings, she has photos to show the signage that is in place at the various points that violations are issued. At times letters she receives and conversations she has can be nasty and include written and/or verbal threats. On occasion the hearing participants can get overheated, requiring the violator(s) to be asked to leave by fire department officials. One out of town angry handicap space violator paid the \$ 300 fine in pennies. Currently repeat offenders are not a problem.

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Chatham Study Jennifer noted that several years ago Chatham completed a study of their downtown parking to calculate how much parking would be required if every commercial user met current zoning requirements. They found they were roughly 900 spaces short during the peak tourist season.

Parking Forum on Thursday, February 6th, 2020

Denny O'Connell ran through his updated PowerPoint draft for use in our presentation at the Wellfleet Forum. Changes suggested will be made prior to February 6th forum at the Senior Center at 7:00PM. Shelia Lyons noted notices have been sent and signs have been posted. A slide will be added with the top ten points of origin for Commercial Vehicles that travel to Cahoon Hollow.

Historic Loss of Parking Spaces at Ocean Beaches

Wayne Clough and Denny O'Connell calculated an estimate of Ocean Beach Parking space loss from 1985 to 2018 (23 years) using Google Earth Pro. A slide with this information will be added to the Forum Presentation. The estimate of 150 spaces were calculated as noted below with the assumption that each parking space is 8 feet wide and 18 feet long.

Lot	Total Depth of Lot Loss - 23 Years	Average Annual Loss in Feet	Estimated Number of Parking Spaces Lost
Newcomb Hollow	132 Ft.	5.7 Ft.	66
Cahoon Hollow	60 Ft.	2.6 Ft.	34
Whitecrest Beach	76 Ft.	3.3 Ft.	0
Maguire Landing	100 Ft.	4.3 Ft.	50
Total Estimate			150

Meeting with SelectBoard

A date for our meeting will be established at our next meeting for submission of our final recommendations to the Selectboard.

Action Items and Future Agendas Topics

Denny O' Connell will draft a submission letter for the PTF final recommendations to the Selectboard.

Wayne Clough and Bruce Katcher will work to prepare the files in Survey Monkey for archiving prior to shutting down the account.

Wayne Clough will prepare a list of additional documents to be considered for posting to the PTF website.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM

Next PTF Meeting: Wednesday, February 19th, 2019 @ 5:00 PM at the Senior Center.