

**Bemidji State University**  
**Parking Committee/Advisory Board Meeting**  
**November 19, 2014**

**Location Date & Time:**

Meeting was held November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 1:00 p.m. in the South Conference room in the Lower Hobson Memorial Union.

**Present:**

Casey McCarthy, Jeff Sande, Stephanie Bard, Darla Finnegan, Tom Beech, Scott Theisen & Scott Pula.

**Absent:**

Chad Blake; no Student Senate rep; No NTC rep.

Casey McCarthy noted that there was a quorum present and called the meeting to order.

**Old Business:**

Tom Beech requested to amend the February 19, 2014, meeting minutes to show his attendance. Darla Finnegan motioned to approve the amended meeting minutes from February 19, 2014, seconded by Stephanie Bard. Motion carried to approve minutes. Jeff Sande motioned to approve the meeting minutes from September 10, 2014, seconded by Stephanie Bard. Motion carried to approve minutes.

**New Business:** Parking Appeals, one (1) on the agenda.

Appeal from Mike Derman, parking citation #10441, for parking without a current permit, issued at the American Indian Resource Center Parking Lot on 11/06/2014 at 12:43 PM. Mike appeal's that his vehicle was parked at the side of the Gillett Recreation Center Parking Lot, running, with its flashers on. Mike also stated that the vehicle was on campus to shoot video for a program that benefits Bemidji State University. The citation was issued at the AIRC lot and after reviewing camera footage the vehicle was observed at the AIRC at 12:30 PM, leaving at 12:50 PM and the vehicle was off with no flashers. Members discussed the issue and the discrepancy but indicated since Mike was a visitor to campus and the fact that his presence was for the benefit of the University we should grant the appeal.

Motion to approve the appeal and refund the citation money was made by Tom Beech and seconded by Stephanie Bard. Motion carried with a 4-0 vote to approve with 1 member abstaining from the vote.

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Pula and McCarthy provided members with information about a proposal to improve the current parking lot(s) identity and overall parking permit structure starting in the 2015-2016 academic school year. Members were informed the change would eliminate the current permit letter designations (i.e. G1, G2, LR, etc.) by changing to a colored (i.e. Orange, Blue, Green, etc.) parking lot system. The intent is to provide a more welcoming approach/appearance for students, faculty, staff, and visitors along with minimizing any confusion that the current number system creates. The proposal additionally reconfigures the parking lots to be defined as either a commuter or residential parking lot. The permit structure for both commuter and residential lots would be established as a tiered hierarchy system based on permit cost. Members discussed that a color coded system would help eliminate parking confusion on campus as this is often the case. Members also discussed that students who live on campus would only be eligible for the residential lots and the possibility to limit residents to specific lots based on each residential building. This will help reduce resident who drive from the Oak parking lot to the Bangsberg

parking lot which is a common issue hence overall it will help maintain adequate parking in each lot.

Additionally members were informed of the preliminary proposal to construct a projected 130 to 150 stall parking lot at the current tennis courts near Walnut Hall. This new parking area would allow both or either the Upper PE Parking Lot or the Rec Center Parking Lot to be converted into a commuter lot with no overnight parking. Significant benefits were discussed as the PE and/or Rec Center lot would then be able to accommodate the high volume of vehicles coming for events within this area. Currently this lot is full of residents and many vehicles do not move for months. The proximity of this lot to the residential buildings is closer so it will automatically make a much safer walk for residents and during the winter months it would allow for scheduled snow removal in the parking lots which is currently a frequent complaint. Members were receptive to the information and commented that it would benefit the University to be more inviting to visitors of BSU along with maximizing space, providing better safety and security, and overall simply makes good sense. Lastly, it was mentioned that a commuter lot on the residential side of campus for faculty, staff, and non-resident students who commute to Decker hall is beneficial. McCarthy noted that Student Senate is currently discussing similar modifications particularly in the Birch/Decker lot so we hope these changes will help assist in those discussions as well. The entire proposal is being sent to administration for further discussion.

Tom Beech made a motioned of support to continue pursuing these changes and ongoing discussions of the parking permit restructure, seconded by Stephanie Bard. Motion passed with a 5-0 vote to continue discussion and support moving forward.

The meeting was adjourned.

**Next meeting:**

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled as follows:

Date: December 03, 2014

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: South Conference Room (HMU)

Respectfully submitted,  
Casey McCarthy  
Director Public Safety