

## Parking Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes – Friday, November 9, 2001

Parking Advisory Committee Chairperson David Cowan convened a regular meeting of the Parking Advisory Committee at 1:05 PM on Friday, November 9, 2001 in the Conference Room of the Student Association in the Centennial Student Union.

### **Regular PAC Members Present – 6 of 6**

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|----------------------|---|
| 1. Rose Marie Ley    | Representative for Classified Employee Groups |
| 2. David Cowan       | Administration Representative                 |
| 3. C. Rhys Gaffer    | Student Association Off-Campus Representative |
| 4. Steve Bohnenblust | IFO Faculty Association Representative        |
| 5. Abby Tritabaugh   | Student Association On-Campus Representative  |
| 6. Scott Hagebak     | MSUAASF Bargaining Unit Representative        |

### **Regular PAC Members Absent – 0 of 6**

### **Ex-officio Nonvoting Mem. Present – 3 of 7**

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. David Neve     | Business Affairs Office - Nonvoting              |
| 2. Diane Solinger | Residential Life Office - Nonvoting              |
| 3. Kristen Young  | Residence Hall Association President - Nonvoting |

### **Ex-officio, Nonvoting Mem. Absent – 4 of 7**

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|----------------------------|--|
| 1. Sue Edstrom (Excused)   | Parking & Traffic Services Coordinator           |
| 2. Kate Voight (Excused)   | Parking Citation Appeals Board Liaison           |
| 3. Larry Kohanek (Excused) | Facilities Mgmt. Planning & Construction Manager |
| 4. (Vacant)                | Space Scheduling Office Liaison                  |

### **Others in Attendance - 5**

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Joe Muggli          | Stu. Assn.'s Stu. Svcs. Coordinator & Off-Campus Senator |
| 2. Teritius D. Fortune | Student Association's Legislative Affairs Coordinator    |
| 3. Karen Hadley        | Residence Hall Association Observer                      |
| 4. Kellie Lattin       | National Residence Hall Honorary Vice President          |
| 5. Agnes Drager        | National Residence Hall Honorary President               |

### **Meeting Agenda Approved**

Without objection the meeting agenda for the November 9<sup>th</sup> was approved. The prepared agenda listed the date as November 2<sup>nd</sup> when it should have read November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Without objection the Advisory Committee members approved as distributed the minutes of the PAC's October 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. Corrections were then made to the meeting minutes of November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### **Consideration of the Tabled Bohnenblust Motion**

PAC members then continued debating aspects of the four major points contained in the motion presented by Steve Bohnenblust and seconded by Rose Marie Ley on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. [That motion was tabled on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and was part of the approved November 9<sup>th</sup> agenda, hence there was no need for a motion to "Take from the Table".] If recommended by the PAC, then aired at the March Annual Hearing on Parking Policies & Procedures, and subsequently endorsed by the Administration, the changes would affect permit allocations and sales for next year. The four points included in the motion are:

- Gold permit and on-street Purple permit stalls be converted to faculty/staff parking.
- 75 Green residence hall slots from Lot 13 and/or Lot 3 be converted to Gold.
- Provide a graduate student priority and allow commuting students to purchase remaining Gold at the beginning of Fall Semester at 75%.
- Gold prices be frozen for two years (2002-03 and 2003-04).

Bohnenblust restated his belief that a major change was needed in the way premium parking permits are allocated. [See minutes of November 2<sup>nd</sup>.] He argued that these two major issues need to be addressed by the PAC: 1) availability; and 2) cost.

Diane Solinger indicated that there was merit in developing a plan that allocated existing Gold permits differently. She offered that faculty/staff could be given a "priority" in the Gold permit spring drawing and that what they did not use would be sold to student customers. She predicted little change to the existing mix between student Gold permit holders (371) and faculty/staff Gold permit holders (610) even if the faculty/staff priority policy were put in place. Solinger believes that most of the 69 faculty/staff who purchased \$76 Orange permits would not consider buying a \$210 Gold permit no matter how close the stalls or what priority was given to faculty/staff. She also surmised that many of the 189 faculty/staff who purchased a Purple permit did so for economy reasons and not necessarily because sales caps had been put on certain Gold permit lots.

Bohnenblust restated his point that Green permits were undervalued; and, in terms of revenue impact, because of the ability to oversell Gold permits while still honoring the guaranteed parking pledge, each Gold permit stall generates \$248 annually while close-in light Green permits only generate \$138 each for such prime stalls. [971 Gold permits sold divided by 824 Gold stalls = 1.18% or an accumulated 18% oversell x \$210 Gold price = \$248 earning performance. The \$138 earning performance ratio of Green permits reflects the fact that Residence hall Green close-in stalls now virtually equal existing Green permits though the plan had called for a 5% to 7% oversell. A number of residence hall students who originally applied or purchased a Green permit no longer possess them.]

Karen Hadley, Kellie Lattin, and Agnes Drager did not support the Bohnenblust proposal to take 75 stalls away from the existing inventory of 1,500 Green permit stalls near the residence halls. They argued that students live in these residence halls 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and should not be put at risk by having to park out in some distant lot. Already close to 300 students are forced to park in Lot 20a, the Dark Green Discount Permit lot across from Blakeslee Stadium. C. Rhys Gaffer concurred in their assessment and indicated that taking 75 stalls out of Lot 13 was not a good idea, despite the fact that it would provide more close in stalls for faculty/staff who work in Armstrong Hall, Morris Hall, Memorial Library, and Nelson Hall.

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### **Division of the Question**

Without objection it was agreed to deal separately with each part of the four-part Bohnenblust motion. The maker of the motion, Stephen Bohnenblust, and the seconder, Rose Marie Ley, agreed to consolidate part one and part three and the rest of the PAC agreed to focus its discussion on the allocation of Gold permits.

David Neve raised concerns about the difficulty involved with trying to get the word out to off-campus students and MSU employees who might qualify for the 75% price rate in Lot 19. He said people would probably not buy Lot 19 Gold if they knew that the rates would drop after a certain date.

Scott Hagebak indicated we could change our approach to the Spring Gold lottery, switch the signs on certain Gold lots to read something like “Faculty/Staff Gold Permits Only,” etc. Hagebak stated his belief that not all the faculty and staff parking permit holders want Gold. Many simply do not want to pay \$210 for a Gold permit. Hagebak favors a pricing structure that is “value based,” and, in his opinion, close in Green permits are as valuable as Gold, and certainly worth more than the \$138 residence hall students now pay for the Green permit.

Solinger commented that the PAC would be better off to change the process instead of changing out a lot of Gold lot signs.

C. Rhys Gaffer recognized that faculty and staff can legitimately claim that many of the Gold permit lots have a strong representation of students which means that MSU employees were displaced and ended up parking further out. Nevertheless, Rhys strongly objected to providing faculty/staff with any kind of priority fearing that the Gold permits left unclaimed by the faculty/staff would not be enough to meet existing off-campus student demand. He felt that any such plan would “disenfranchise” those off-campus students willing to pay \$210 for a Gold permit. He did not want to see an erosion of the student’s share of the existing percent mix (38% student buyers, 62% faculty/staff).

During discussion of the motion an idea was presented by Stephen Bohnenblust to designate Gold Lot 18’s 57 Gold permit stalls as Green while sealing off roughly 68 Lot 13 Green permit stalls to create a new Gold permit area right across from the Library. The plan was not viewed favorably by others in the PAC meeting as residence hall students who end up parking in Lot 18 still would have to walk a long way late at night before getting inside of McElroy or Crawford.

Cowan supported the Hagebak and Solinger contention that there would probably not be a dramatic change in the existing parking habits of those faculty and staff who either own a Purple permit, Orange permit, or take the bus. Cowan believes sufficient Gold permits would be left to take care of those students who want to buy, however, students would probably not find themselves in the more popular Gold lots close-in to the campus core.

**Objective: Faculty/Staff Gold Priority**

Stephen Bohnenblust, maker of the original motion’s parts 1 & 3, along with Rose Marie Ley who seconded the motion, then agreed to modify their merged motion by substituting the following language:

Gold permit space shall be allocated on a priority basis for faculty and staff. Leftover or unsold Gold permits would be allocated for off-campus student customers.

Without objection the modification was made and discussion was then closed on the topic. A vote was taken on the new language. Motion passed with Bohnenblust, Tritabaugh, Ley, Hagebak and Cowan voting yes; Gaffer voting no.

David Cowan indicated that he and David Neve would develop a plan to implement this new objective and present the details to the PAC for review.

**Adjournment**

Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Cowan, Chairperson  
Parking Advisory Committee