Members present: Glenn Barrington, Jon King, Shane Conklin, Niels La Cour, Rob Hendry, Sumera Ahsan, Jennifer Bennett, Martha Nelson Patrick, Tom O’Donnell, Andy Steinberg, Martin Konowitch, Lily Wallace, Derek Dunlea, Benjamin Ostiguy, and Greg Wheeler.

Guests: Adam Sherson and Metin Yavuz


Rob Hendry, motion to accept February and April minutes. Jennifer Bennett seconded.

Jon King, Parking Update:

- Parking garage construction update.
- $4 million renovation with funding provided by Parking Services and Auxiliary Services.
- Doing a complete rebuild of the fire suppression system, structural repairs, and deck sealing.
- On July 14th, 2016, the first, second, and third levels were closed.
- Construction was completed on level one on September 5th.
- Construction was completed on levels two and three on September 15th.
- Parking for levels four, five, and six were closed September 15th.
- The path to the exit on level four will remain open.
- Level four expected to be completed on October 15th.
- Levels five and six to open in late October.
- Completion by first or second week of November.
- Solar canopy installations.
- 4 Megawatt solar installation on both rooftops and parking lots at UMass.
- This is a $20 million project.
- The project is not owned by UMass, the property is leased for a discount on electricity.
- Will save UMass $6 million over the next ten years.
- The contractor got a late start, which pushed the completion date out by about one and a half months.
- Lot 44 was complete on September 26th.
- Lot 25 was 50% complete on October 1st, and should be 100% complete by October 15th.
- Canopies may reduce plowing costs as well.
- Summer parking projects.
- Lot 43 behind the Arnold house got a complete redesign at a cost of $330k.
- Rebuilt and paved the entrance and travel lane of lot 33.
• Cracks were sealed in lots 20, 27, 31, 34, 29, 42, 50, 63, 68, and 71 for $60k.
• A section of lot 29 was repaved.
• Projects on the horizon.
  • Design requested for lot 12.
    • Would like to pave and include water run-off management.
    • Might be cheaper to pave now that it is capped.
    • Should have this assessment back in a month or two – will bring up at November meeting.
  • Repaving lot 25.
    • Lot was in rough shape before the canopies went in and will probably be a “patchwork” after the canopies are finished.
    • Rough estimate to repave is $500k, but there may be some post solar grant money for this.
  • Hills demolition ideal.
    • After the demolition of the Hills House, it will become a parking lot.
    • Would like opinions on what will be the most efficient use of that space.
• More efficient parking moving forward.
  • In garage – would like something similar to the Northampton garage.
    • Would like multiple ways of getting into the garage such as using a Spire ID or scanning an ID.
    • Pay at pay stations before leaving, and use receipt to exit.
    • Would need to integrate with parking software.
  • Would like to get rid of manual permits.
    • The Occasional Parker Program (OPP) is now just for commuters, but eventually we will have to do away with the program as it causes overflows and is untrackable.
    • Click, Print, and Park is more controllable.
  • Renewals and full year purchases to be completed online only.
  • License Plate Recognition (LPR).
    • License plate becomes the permit.
    • This technology has improved, but we will need to move away from manual permits in order for this to work efficiently.
    • The timeline for this project is two years.

Tom O’Donnell, Golf Cart Regulations:

• Tom has received complaints about golf carts on campus not understanding the rules and regulations.
• Wants to make sure there are guidelines.
• Jon – Mike from Environmental Health and Safety made up some rules.
• Tom would like to make sure that other campus departments have access to these rules.
• Jon – We may want to have a meeting with Res Life and Aux Services to communicate these rules.
Glenn Barrington, Transit Update:

- Fiscal year FY16 was a record year, with 3.6 million passengers.
  - This was a 6.12% increase over FY15.
- New equipment arrivals.
  - Two Blue Bird Transit Coach buses.
    - They have USB ports at each passenger site, and luggage racks.
  - Two MV-1 vans.
    - They are the latest style of wheelchair accessible equipment, and much nicer than our older special transportation vans.
    - Include a ramp that slides out of the side.
- Summer training results.
  - Goal was twenty new drivers, but only trained ten new drivers.
  - We currently have 135 part time student drivers.
  - Ideally we would have 155.
  - Still playing catch up from our expansion of service in September of 2015.

Adam Sherson, PVTrAck – New Mobile Bus Tracker:

- Adam demonstrated a new pre-release web version of PVTrAck, which can be found at www.m.pvta.com.
- PVTrAck is a new phone app written by UMass students.
- It is open-source.
- Can favorite bus stops and plan trips.

Non-Agenda Items that were discussed:

- Sumera Ahsan talked about issues that were brought up in a meeting.
  - The summer reduced service schedule is tough on students without cars.
  - Glenn – Not enough ridership or funding to justify more frequent buses.
  - Sumera- Are there any alternatives?
  - Glenn – We could add a list of alternatives and taxi services to our website.
- Andy Steinberg brought up a list of items to discuss.
  - Andy – Why are temporary passes no longer valid for Lot 71?
    - Jon – Temporary passes have been causing a lot of issues in that area.
  - Andy discussed USA Members that were displaced from their parking garage spots all summer without any notification. People went to lower paying lots, but no refunds were given for pre-paid garage permits.
  - Jon – It has always been our policy to find the best alternatives when closing lots. People could have gone to parking to get a refund.
Andy – People on the wait list for lot 30 went down in priority instead of up? Parking should be by physical need, not by rank.
  • Benjamin Ostiguy – People with need can go to disability services to get priority.
Andy – The Parking Regulations and Guidelines was last updated in 2011, when will the next update be?
  • Jon – That document is a trustee document, and revisions need to be approved by the Board of Trustees. Will be submitting a new one soon.
Andy – Several departments are being moved to Venture Way in Hadley. Several employees do not drive, which will make this commute a challenge. There is no bus service for Venture Way, and there are no crosswalks or good walking areas to Venture Way.
  • Glenn – In 2005, PVTA tried out a bus service to Venture Way, but it had low ridership and was discontinued. The PVTA doesn’t have an interest in diverting routes towards that area as it adds mileage, time, and inconveniences the majority of riders.
  • Rob Hendry – Can add Venture Way as a destination in NuRide to potentially use for carpooling.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:51 PM