

Members Present: Leighton Price, Christine Pratt, Patrice Hatcher, Bill Hallisey, Charlie Bletzer & Alan Zanotti.

5:00 p.m. Meeting called to Order by Leighton Price & Public comment.

Public Comment --

1. Leslie Allen of the North Street Stained Glass Emporium thinks PGDC should not charge for parking in the winter given the amount of surplus spaces and negativity surrounding the parking plan. She also feels that if the PGDC continues to collect revenue, there needs to be a public explanation and presentation of how the money is being used.

Mr. Price replies that the winter suspension is being presented to the BOS for review.

Ms. Pratt shares that financials are for public record, frequently shared with the Town Manager on a regular basis. At this juncture, PGDC has taken a very conservative position with investing finances and is in the process of drafting a Financial Policy that clearly explains what qualifies as a Community Development Project; it will be shared with the BOS for their input when the draft is finalized.

Leslie Allen shares her thoughts on parking in general. She feels some people will continue to abuse the two hour parking and if there was a two hour limit on North, Middle and Carver Streets, that would be fine but hopes there would be less abuse of the two hour spaces if business owners and employees can park for free in the larger lots. She does not think the \$100.00 permit fee is an exorbitant fee, but it is not justified given the amount of surplus spaces.

2. Christopher Hart of the Nathan Hale Foundation asks if State plates, FBI, DAV or Handicap plates are exempt from paid parking. Only Handicap and DAV's are exempt, but only if they can prove it with use of a clearly displayed placard or on their license. No unlawfully parked vehicle is ever exempt from receiving a ticket. A simple omission in the bylaw leads the Board to think that State and Federal registrations are not exempt from paid parking; Ms. Hatcher believes the only exception for exemptions would be an Embassy Plate. In looking at the appeals process and revamping tickets, Ms. Pratt did come across some commentary specifically related to DAV's. She will go through that statute and follow up with him.

5:35 p.m. Request to Waive Parking Fees –

1. Ken Brady from the Non-profit "Oral Cancer Foundation" is hosting a walk in Plymouth and requests parking be waived in 184 spaces in the East Bay Grille lot for the day on Sunday September 21, 2008.

Mr. Zanotti wants Mr. Ruggerio to get feedback from area merchants on the overflow parking so that some sort of policy can be established for future requests.

Ms. Pratt motions to support the request to waive parking at the Water Street One and Two lots and Ms. Hatcher seconds, with the additional provision that information about overflow lot availability is shared with participants.

Passed | 6-0-0

Mr. Ruggerio will place free event parking signs on the P&D machines.

Mr. Zanotti suggests that Mr. Ruggerio do a special collection on the Sunday before or after the event to determine the cost associated with waived parking fees. Mr. Bletzer agrees a close eye should be kept on how many cars are in the parking lot on the day of the event. He will check on how many cars are in the lot that day and report back to the Board.

6:00 p.m. Bills to be approved –

No bills at this time.

At the request of Ms. Hatcher, Ms. Pratt shares with her the PGDC expense files for the Hollywood East on Main Street event held in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce and Destination Plymouth on July 12, 2008.

6:03 p.m. Approval of the Proposed Budget –

Ms. Pratt asks for approval of the Draft Budget so she can provide copies to the auditor and bookkeeper. Adoption of the Seasonal Parking Plan is pending endorsement by the BOS. In endorsing the budget, the Board needs to consider how to effectively cut costs during the winter months.

Mr. Zanotti motions to approve the budget as prepared and Mr. Bletzer seconds.

Passed | 5-0-1

Ms. Pratt asks if there is anything the Board can do to help Ms. Hatcher to stop abstaining from the vote. Ms. Hatcher replies that while she has in fact read the commentary Ms. Pratt provided in the budget, an electronic version of the document would make it easier for her to review in total. Her request for a digital version of the document went unanswered by the President and is the reason why she chooses to abstain.

6:10 p.m. Status of the Auditor's report –

Ms. Pratt sent a request to release the Auditor's Report. The Auditor is waiting for a copy of the leased equipment payment schedule before sending the report back to the Board. Ms. Pratt hopes it will be available to accompany the Annual Report to the BOS.

6:13 p.m. PGDC Report to the Selectmen –

Mr. Price provides hand outs to the Board of the Draft Annual Report and requests that it remain confidential until it is released to the Selectmen so they are able to judge it without pretense. He asks the Board to make notes and submit questions back to specifically him in email, not each other; he will incorporate any suggestions into the presentation before the Board reviews it together next week.

6:22 p.m. PGDC Meetings 10-9-08 through 10-24-08

Mr. Price will not be available for meetings from October 9, 2008 through October 24, 2008.
Mr. Hallisey will take up running the meeting on those dates.

6:26 p.m. Other Financials –

Ms. Pratt will forward to Mr. Price some suggestions she has about financial language that should be used in the Annual Report to the BOS.

The Auditor has suggested the Board create an Investment Policy.

Ms. Pratt suggests that placing another 50k in a short term CD would be a wise decision.

Ms. Hatcher motions allocate 50k into another short term CD and Mr. Zanotti seconds for discussion.

Ms. Hatcher revises her motion to 60k and Mr. Hallisey seconds.

Passed | 6-0-0

Ms. Pratt will check into which bank the best choice for investment is.

6:35 p.m. Ms. Hatcher excuses herself from the meeting.

6: 40 p.m. Executive Session –

Adjournment of the Public Meeting to go into Executive Session under the provisions of MGL, ch. 39, 23A-24 for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. (Please note the Board will not be returning to public session at the conclusion of the Executive Session).

Roll Call Vote

Mr. Hallisey	--Yes
Mr. Bletzer	--yes
Mr. Price	--Yes
Ms. Pratt	--Yes
Mr. Zanotti	--Yes

Next meeting is Tuesday September 23, 2008 at the Town Hall Plantation Room.

Respectfully submitted by PGDC Secretary Mr. William Hallisey

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Mr. William Hallisey