

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Town Clerk's Office

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 2021

COMMUNITY INPUT SESSION REGARDING PARKING IN THE WORTH AVENUE TO ROYAL PALM WAY BUSINESS AREA

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Business and Administrative Committee Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. On roll call, all committee members were found to be present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Crampton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Committee Member Moore and seconded by Chair Crampton. On roll call the Motion passed unanimously.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

Chair Crampton gave a few opening comments and reiterated that the Committee's role is to make recommendations to the Town Council. He stated that this was the third hearing to review parking issues in Town, as they had already dealt with Royal Poinciana Way and South County Road, today's meeting will be regarding Worth Avenue. He mentioned the backup material provided by staff and stated that they would be viewed in the context of residents' needs and convenience and also in the context of businesses in the area.

Member Moore again stated that the recommendations from the Committee will be taken to Town Council for further discussion as the Committee does not make any decisions. She stated that she looked forward to a robust and vibrant discussion today regarding parking in the Worth Avenue District. She was notified by Deputy Town Manager Jay Boodheshwar that there were 26 participants on the meeting call.

Chair Crampton stated that the Committee does expect to make some recommendations to the Council at the February meeting. He reminded all that the committee had already made recommendations regarding shared parking and underground lots. Chair Crampton stated that the Committee intended to produce useful results after these meetings. Compromises might be

made, but benefits would be expected to accrue to residents, businesses and the Town.

A. Recap of Preliminary Regulation Options Related to Parking in the Worth Avenue to Royal Palm Way Business Area

Jay Boodheshwar, Deputy Town Manager

Jay Boodheshwar, Deputy Town Manager gave an historical overview of the past meetings, starting with November last year with a review of all the existing parking regulations in the Town's commercial areas. It was agreed at that time to break the main commercial areas into three (3) areas: County Road corridor, Royal Poinciana Way area and Worth Avenue. No action has been taken at this time. Mr. Boodheshwar spoke regarding the Retail Strategy Consultant selection process.

B. Community Input Related to Existing and/or Potential Parking Regulations in the Worth Avenue to Royal Palm Way Business Area

Mr. Boodheshwar explained that the Worth Avenue business area included all roads, east, west, north and south between Hammond Avenue to Royal Palm Way, which overlaps with the South County Road business area. He presented several spreadsheets highlighting preliminary recommendations for commercial streets in the area, on-street regulations, number of parking spaces, current regulations, and potential regulation changes. He mentioned the following areas which are being recommended for metered parking and/or increased parking rates:

Australian Ave (100 block) South side
Brazilian Ave (100 block) North and South sides
Chilean Ave (100 block) North and South sides
Cocoanut Row (200 and 400 blocks)
Hammon Ave (100 block) North and South sides
Peruvian Ave (100 block) North and South sides
Royal Palm Way (100 block) North and South sides
S. County Rd (200 block) East and West sides
S. County Rd (300 block) East and West sides
S. County Rd (400 block) East side
Worth Ave (100 block) North and South sides
Worth Ave (200 block) North and South sides
Worth Ave (300 block) North and South sides
Worth Ave (400 block) North side

Chair Crampton commented that the numbers being shown on the charts were the result of aerial surveys of parking and data searches of parking enforcement. Results of these surveys, will be available for review by the February 19th meeting.

Mr. Boodheshwar mentioned that S. Lake Drive (300 block), the west side is being recommended for Marina parking only; and Brazilian Ave (200 block), Hammon Ave,

Cocoanut Row and Hibiscus Ave are being recommended for placard parking. He showed aerial maps of the areas for the paid and placard parking programs.

Member Moore inquired about employees parking in front of the stores to which Mr. Boodheshwar responded that the store owners would be better able to respond to that question. He deferred to Ben Alma, Parking/Code Enforcement Manager, who reported that from November 1 to date, 317 parking citations were issued in the Worth Avenue area. He then explained that some of their resources had to be redeployed to assist with COVID-19 vaccination traffic and the former President being in Town. He mentioned that he had spoken with several business owners who informed him that parking is used as an incentive for their employees – high-end salesperson gets a privileged parking spot in the parking lot and the person who sells the least will have to park on the street. Some business owners have one employee who moves the cars every hour and if they receive a ticket, the cost is split between all the staff or it is paid from tips if they are tipped employees.

Chair Crampton commented that the Town was trying to promote turnover in the parking spaces. He suggested getting the number of employees from each business owner on Worth Avenue and mentioned that the Town was open to getting a sequestered area for employees as a first step towards resolving the situation. Co-operation with the Worth Avenue Association is a must for this project to succeed.

C. Committee Discussion and Q & A with Staff and Meeting Participants

The following residents spoke:

Dr. Richard Lynn, President of Palm Beach Midtown Business Association and husband of Salon Margrit's owner. He reported that he had spoken with Josh Martin of the Frisbee Group, that had recently purchased several buildings on S. County Road. The group now owns the parking lot which was previously owned by the Bank. He stated that the Group was committed to meeting with the Committee and working with the Association. He mentioned that in some areas patrons just need to park for 5 or 10 minutes to pick up food orders.

Mr. Boodheshwar added that recommendation would be made to have the first 30 or 60 minutes free on the parking meters.

Jane Holzer spoke regarding the valet service on Worth Avenue and stated that they didn't want parking meters there. She also spoke about ownership changes on the Avenue.

Mr. Boodheshwar suggested two dates for the next Committee meeting of which February 19, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. was selected.

Kristin Fries, President of Worth Avenue Association and Manager of Bottega Venetta spoke regarding the parking challenges on the Avenue and offered assistance from the

Association in obtaining the total number of employees and spaces available for employees to purchase in the Apollo parking.

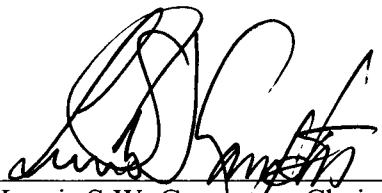
Mr. Boodheshwar announced that the public may send thoughts/comments to Chair Crampton at lcrampton@townofpalmbeach.com, Member Moore at dmoore@townofpalmbeach.com or to himself at jboodheshwar@townofpalmbeach.com.

V. ANY OTHER MATTERS - None

VI. ADJOURNMENT

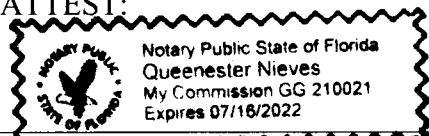
The Business and Administrative Committee meeting of Tuesday, January 26, 2021, was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

APPROVED:



Lewis S.W. Crampton, Chair

ATTEST:



Queenester Nieves, CMC, Town Clerk

3/2/2021
Date

