

## **EMU TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

Minutes: February 19, 2015

### **Members Present:**

Kenneth Dobson – Executive Director, Government and Community Relations  
Steven Cole – VP of Student Council  
Dionne Hammes – Manager of Parking  
Diane Browning – UAW Local 1975  
Chris Grant – Zone Manager Physical Plant  
Desmond Miller – President of Student Council  
John McCallister – Student Senate  
Dieter Otto – Director of Grounds, Custodial, Motor Pool, Waste Mgmt. and Parking  
Jason Crispell - AFSCME

### **Preliminaries:**

Started at 3:37pm

### **Representatives for this Committee:**

We have received no response from the Faculty Senate. We will also reach out to the Human Resources Dept. and the Business and Finance Dept. to see if someone wants to attend.

### **Desmond Miller:**

There are three issues that he would like us to consider. The first being free guest passes for Residents and/or selling them at the dorms. Secondly, free meter parking on weekends for people with hang tags and lastly, the COB shuttle.

### **Dieter Otto Responds:**

COB shuttle: In regards to the COB shuttle, EMU has been providing this service for over two decades. AAATA is looking into changing the routes in Ypsilanti. AAATA has three options that they would like to finalize by 2016. They are looking at whether to expand, keep the same or whether to add services. They are also looking into whether to divide East and West routes. East would be a 20 minute route and the West would go out from Washtenaw. The problem is that EMU can't be mandated by a municipal route. We can hire another bus for finals time but we need to know now. They can only do it for a short time because AAATA has to hire someone. Keep in mind that we have only filled the bus to capacity three times. Monday through Thursday from 10am to 2pm are the only times that they deck fills up. It is also noted that the drivers on the AAATA bus route have been very helpful.

Guest Passes: Students who live here could get free passes with the packet that they pick up and lists could be kept of who is here on campus using those passes. They could also be purchased at the front desk of the Resident Halls once the Staff is trained. Guest Passes would also be able to be charged to the student's e-bill. The Parking Department will have an internal discussion on this and get back with this Committee and the Student Council.

Meter Parking: Students with hang tags should be able to park at meters on the weekends for free. Parking at meters has not been free because historically speaking, the Parking Department was having problems with event people using them all up on the weekends. The other problem was that the Physical Plant couldn't clean meter areas after a snow fall. It usually takes Physical Plant 15 to 20 minutes and instead it was taking them 3 to 4 days to clean them out. A pilot program could be tried and specific hours could be set.

Dieter will set up a meeting with Nick Rachowicz, Director of Resident Life, to discuss meters and guest passes and will report back to the committee on the decisions made.

Dieter also informed us that historically speaking EMU used to have 1,500 less spots on campus and the same amount of students. He was at Central Michigan University last week and learned that they are modeling their campus after ours. They are going toward more parking on the outskirts of campus and looking to add 6 or 7 more miles of sidewalks on campus.

**Green Lot 2:**

The Board of Regents will be deciding if this lot is to be redone this summer. The plan is to redo it and make it more pedestrian friendly from Cornell to Westview to the Village.

**AAATA:**

Kenneth Dobson wanted us to know that there will be a meeting with AATA in the upcoming weeks. Michael Valdes, John Donegan, Dieter Otto and Kenneth will be meeting with AAATA to hear their latest proposal to EMU. Kenneth said he will update us at the next meeting.

**Diane Browning:**

She would like to know why she and other Staff members had to move their cars in Oakwood South when students were parking three deep. It was not her row that parked illegally. Dieter Otto will check with Chief Heighes on this matter. Dieter also informed us that EMU does not currently have a tow policy.

**Snow on Parking Decks**

Physical Plant will unload the roofs of the parking decks during Winter Break. Be advised that the snow is dumped off the top of the decks.

**EMU Transportation Committee Meeting**

The next meeting will be March 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm in Halle room 320.