Transportation and Parking Committee Minutes  
8 October 2007

Present:  Carolyne Dudding, Debby Freed, W. R. Flinchum, Richard McCoy, Steve Mouras, J. Wyatt Sasser, Tom Tucker, Anne Zajac

Meeting was called to order and the Agenda and September 10 2007 Minutes were approved.

New Business:
The committee decided to start approving minutes electronically. Minutes will be sent to members for review with a time limit to make corrections, corrections should be sent to usnavy@vt.edu, corrections will be made and minutes will be resent. A no response will mean approval of the minutes.

Comments from the Staff Association for Facilities Employees were expressed about tiered parking. Their concern was for employees who are classified as emergency personnel being able to get to work if a tier parking system is in place. The University is not looking at tier parking as an option. They may consider satellite parking which will have bus service to campus. If the University is closed and BT is not running, Parking Service does not enforce parking rules except for handicapped spaces, yellow line spaces, designated snow-route spaces, etc. Emergency personnel would be allowed to park on campus even with a satellite parking pass.

A parking garage will cost over $30 million to build and will have an annual debt load of $1.7. The Transportation Office is looking in to various ways to fund the parking garage. Next year there will be a remote parking lot put in at the bottom of Chicken Hill.

The Parking Appeals Hearing Committee discussed the need to have student representatives. Parking Services will send a note to the Student Government Association and Graduate Student Association asking for student representative to the Parking Appeals Hearing Committee. Request for representation also presented to Residence Hall Federation. A free parking permit available to those serving on the committee -- must serve before receiving the free permit. It was suggested that the Parking Appeals Hearing policy be changed to include a paragraph that will indicate an “up to number” of how many students, faculty and staff can serve on the Committee.

Old Business:
VT Bicycle Policy – The new draft of the policy should be sent out in couple weeks for review. The Police Department supports riding bikes on sidewalk because their officers ride on them. A map shows dismount areas is being created. This policy will also include moped, skate board, Personal Transport devices regulations. University Policy 5000 needs to be updated. When the Bicycle Policy has been approved, a note will state this policy supersedes all other policies except for the Disability Policy. This Bicycle Policy will not apply to handicap mobility assistance devices. Special vehicles can be parked in buildings like bicycles. Encourage to have them registered. Responsible riding of these vehicles is a must.

Hybrid Vehicles – Fleet Services has ordered 4 Malibu vehicles. E85 gasoline is not an option for us yet. Closest station is outside Richmond. It is a mid-west market. Blacksburg Town and VT are working together to support Biodiesel vehicles.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02.
Next Meeting: November 12, 2007.

Respectfully submitted, Carolyne Dudding, Recorder