

Rehoboth Beach – Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce Downtown Advisory Task Force

Comments that were made during the Rehoboth Beach – Dewey Beach Chamber of Commerce Downtown Advisory Meeting held on September 19, 2019 at The Bellmoor Inn:

[Attendees Included: Greg Talcott – Stringrays/Sazio, Bill Frankis – The Green Turtle, Trey Kraus – Carlton’s, Mark Saunders – parking committee guest, Mary Shapiro – Grace Boutique, Taber & Nadia Bartoshesky – Hunt & Lane, Adam Newman – Rehoboth Ale House, Daniel Slagle – Rehoboth Beach Main Street, Stephen Fallon – Gidget’s Gadgets, Gladys Fernandez – Cilantro Cocina de Mexico, Gina March – Bombshell Boutique, Curtis Whitehair – The Olive Orchard, Evan Miller – City of Rehoboth Beach, Dean Shuttleworth – Thrasher’s, Chris Flood – Cape Gazette, Mark Betchkutz, Patrick Gossett, Amylynn Karnbach – One Day at a Time Gift Shop, Linda Kauffman – Resident Chair Parking Committee, Dale Lomas, Pete Borsari – The Pond, Kelly Munyan – Nicola Pizza, Susan Wood & Glendy Townley – Cultured Pearl, Edward Joseph Chrzanowski – City of Rehoboth Beach, Lauren Romig – The Pelican Loft, Donna Fedle – White House Black Market, Amanda & Joe Kane – Salt + Stone, Kathy Mary – Mark Showell Interiors, Karen Zakarian – Boardwalk Plaza Hotel, Linda Bonville – Cape Henlopen Senior Center, Randy Mason – parking committee guest, Nick Caggiano – Nicola Pizza, Karen Brown – Admiral on Baltimore, Matthew DeMenna – Hunt & Lane, Jill Hudson – Christmas Spirit, Tom McGron – Sea Change Vacation, Sharon Kanter – Rehoboth Beach Public Library, Yolanda Pineda – Mariachi, Steve Montgomery – The Starboard/Bethany Blues]

- There is bad press about parking in Rehoboth Beach – Visitors are already annoyed before they even get into town
- Parking Enforcement vehicle often found parked in the middle of the street with lights on to give tickets
- Little or inefficient signage on other options for getting parking in town
- Planned decisions on parking need to be made
- Visitor is confused about the “maze of parking”
- Too much inconsistency with parking – different types of meters on different street, different time limits
- Parking committee has done a good job – City has catching up to do
- Three hours isn’t enough time – should be able to extend
- Visitors are frustrated they can’t extend and leave town instead
- Confusing instructions on parking meters
- No signage about meter change on Baltimore Avenue – too many tickets give
- Is there an opportunity for business to use park mobile to pay for customers parking?
- Change machine is too often out of quarters
- Visitors complain that it is hard to find parking, it’s expensive, and change machine is always out of quarters
- No leeway with parking – visitors often getting tickets within a minute of not returning to their vehicle to pay
- Social media is spreading a bad perception of Rehoboth Beach parking making the situation worse
- Lack of parking signage
- No consistency in parking meters

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- Too many 30-minute spaces
- Park Mobile has delay issues causing people to get tickets unnecessarily
- City could be losing money because of parking complications
- Three-hour parking is good to keep day visitors away
- City needs to simplify and identify
- Is there a flat rate solution?
- Number one complaint businesses heard from visitors is that they can't extend their time
- City needs to make all changes at one time, to create less confusion
- Better screen for parking meters, hard to read in very bright/sunny out
- Better information needs to be available to the public
- More change machines needed
- Information booth needs to be well staffed
- Maybe have a colored coded parking meters/spaces to designate time limit spaces
- More outside of town parking options
- Meters ending at 10PM invites unsafe environment
- Parking meter car parking the middle of the road – unsafe (Baltimore/Wilmington)
- Need solutions for employee parking
- Lack of physical meter was confusing, especially since poles were still in place
- Where are parking funds going to – lack of bathrooms issue
- Lots of anger on social media
- Clear instructions needed for parking
- Parking issues are driving people out of town
- Free parking nights – like in Dewey Beach
- City is becoming unwelcoming
- Better coordination with parking meters/permits season and DART buses needed
- Tickets were given because of lack of signage
- Parkmobile allows you to park in 30 min spaces for an hour – causing people to get tickets
- 30 minutes spaces need reviewing with criteria set
- Empty spaces between beach and dinner time due to people needing to move their car
- No more knee-jerk reactions to parking – need to look long term plan
- Some home owners yelling at people parking in front of there house