

St. Michaels Planning Commission
St. Michaels Town Office
300 Mill Street

Special Remote Workshop
February 2, 2021 - 6:00 P.M.

Present: Planning Commission Chairman Jefferson Knapp and Commission Members Helen Herman, Chris Thomas, Carol Parlett and Cynthia Allen, Zoning Officer Kymberly Kudla, Zoning Consultant Peter Johnston, Meeting Coordinator Kimberly Weller, and 23 members of the public.

I. Call to Order:

Chairman Knapp called the special remote workshop on parking to order at 6:03 p.m. in St. Michaels, Maryland.

II. Presentation – Public Forum on Parking

Chairman Knapp opened the discussion of Parking issues in St. Michaels. He reviewed what progress the parking committee had made with signage, mapping, areas in need of curb striping, and identifying new parking areas on Mill Street and Boundary Lane. Chairman Knapp then introduced Peter Johnston, consultant, who was assisting the Planning Commission with the parking project.

Mr. Johnston presented a PowerPoint review of the objectives of the parking committee and the myriad of parking issues, such as safety hazards, visitor/resident parking conflicts, comprehensive signage, and proposed strategies for resolutions.

Chairman Knapp opened the forum up to comments from the Planning Commission members and the public. Member Chris Thomas noted that while the committee did focus on Water Street in its presentation because of Water Street's unique problems, the committee is looking at all the Town's streets.

The members then responded to questions from residents. Marian Brown and Doug Rollow and Marcia McGowan of Water Street addressed the unique problems with parking on Water Street and indicated they favored "resident only" parking. Mary Lou McAllister of Mulberry Street urged working with the restaurants because the ticketing of tourists and restaurant visitors would not work. Jim Fulton of Cherry Street said he thought that residential parking stickers may be inevitable. Paul Bernhardt of W. Maple Avenue said "residential only" parking on certain streets had been implemented in Annapolis as the only solution possible, and it was absurd that there was still parking on Talbot Street and in the Historic District in St. Michaels. The members also responded to other comments from Jeff Hart of W. Marengo Street, Kristen Greenaway of the Maritime Museum, Christian Chute of Talbot Street, and Deborah Colbourn on Grace Street.

Members of the public thanked the Planning Commission for addressing the parking issue. Chairman Knapp thanked everyone for their input and said that while it was doubtful that the solutions would make everyone happy, it was the Commission's goal to satisfy as many people as possible.

III. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Minutes approved by 4-0 vote in favor on 16th day of February, 2021.

Jefferson Knapp, Chairman