

Dalhousie University
Transportation and Security Committee
TEAMS Meeting
October 19, 2021

Attendees: **P. Jones** – Sexton Campus Representative (Co-Chair)
T. Myra – DPMG representative (Co-Chair)
M. Burns - Director of Security Services
S. Spracklin – NSGEU (District #77)
K. Siewrattan – DSU, Director of Operations
K. D’Souza – Office of Sustainability
S. Huybers – DFA representative
P. Bourgeois – Carleton Campus Rep
M. Hill – recording secretary

Regrets: **J. Aguinaga** – Environmental Health & Safety
P. Coutts – Assistant VP, Facilities Management

Absent: Studley Campus Representative - TBD
AC Campus Representative TBD
NSGEU (District #99)
Senate Representative, Halifax Campus - TBD
Senate Representative, AC Campus – TBD

1. Call to Order

Teams – online - meeting called to order by Peter Jones at 10:01 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from September 21, 2021 was reviewed and approved.

3. Business arising from previous minutes:

Member recruitment:

P. Jones is following up with all five organizations that have a missing representative.

Queena Crooker-Smith from AC replied that she will be assigning a representative to the committee.

4. Security Items

Mr. Michael Burns reported on the following items:

Security Report:

- September 25th – The fake homecoming event was planned extensively, but fortunately it had minimal impact on campus. The undesirable behavior occurred almost exclusively off-campus in the community. There is also a related concern regarding the spread of the COVID-19 virus.
- Dr. Gagnon’s group is continuing to monitor the wastewater at residences, where they have learned that COVID-19 can be detected through wastewater days before the virus

would be symptomatic. To date, other than a few isolated instances, this has not been a problem at Dalhousie.

- Regarding campus activities, beginning in early October, the Arts Center and athletic events were opened to spectators. There are no capacity limits beyond the capacity of the facility itself, though everyone entering is checked for proof of dual vaccination.
- There are still people resisting the requirement for proof of vaccination, with excuses provided for why it is not available, however most people have no issue providing either a digital or hardcopy proof.
- All buildings on campus are open with most of the staff working on campus, and classes in person.

Parking:

- The number of general parking permits sold are 75% of what would be expected prior to COVID-19. There is a significant decrease in the reserved lots/parkades. There is less early morning pressure on parking due to some staff still fully or partially working from home, and some classes remaining virtual.
- HotSpot Parking – Options for payment have been implemented without any issues. Pay and display machines, and parking meters are available for use, leaving multiple options for short term parking on campus.
- There is a concern at Sexton Campus, as a business unit from the downtown area has been utilizing the campus lot, taking up spaces that could be used by Dalhousie permit holders. Although, vehicles typically leave around 7, it's still a concern for Dalhousie members looking for parking before their workday starts at 7 AM. Mr. M. Burns' team has spoken to them, and though they seemed understanding and promised not to park on campus, they continue to illegally park there. Therefore, going forward, vehicles will be towed/booted.
- In addition, reserved permit holders who have not renewed, have been notified multiple times about their impending permit expiry. Current permit holders who do not renew this year will lose their spot, and the newly available permits will be offered to people on the waitlist.
- There have been a high number of student parking permits sold this year, as there is a reluctance to use Metro Transit due to COVID-19.

5. Transportation

K. D'Souza reported on the following items:

- The parking lot audit was completed at the end of September by S. McPhee's group.
- K. D'Souza's group is also completing an accessibility audit as part of the larger accessibility planning that's happening on campus. There are projects concerning curb cuts, and distances between accessible parking and entrances, which require detailed planning in terms of accessibility. This audit is expected to be completed in the next few weeks.
- E-Pass registration is available in November, and though most people are still apprehensive about getting back on the buses, we are anticipating increased interest. Another registration on January 2022 and expecting to have more employee to register.

- Sustainability is continuing to promote bicycle rooms and other active transportation modes.

6. New Business

There is nothing to report at this time.

7. Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 10:20am

**The next scheduled meeting: Mona Campbell Conference Room 3207, November 16, 2021
Meeting will be done virtually through Teams meeting @10:00am.**