

Dalhousie University
Transportation and Security Committee
TEAMS Meeting
January 18, 2022

Attendees: **P. Jones** – Sexton Campus Representative (Co-Chair)
M. Burns - Director of Security Services
S. Spracklin – NSGEU (District #77)
K. D’Souza – Office of Sustainability
S. Huybers – DFA representative
P. Bourgeois – Carleton Campus Rep
M. Hill – recording secretary

Regrets: **P. Coutts** – Assistant VP, Facilities Management
T. Myra – DPMG representative (Co-Chair)
J. Aguinaga – Environmental Health & Safety
K. Siewrattan – DSU, Director of Operations

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 10:05 am.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from November 2021 was reviewed and approved.

3. Business arising from previous minutes:

There is nothing to report at this time.

4. Security Items

Mr. Michael Burns reported on the following items:

Parking:

- Since January 1st and during the holiday break, parking volumes on campus have been light. This is because most classes are virtual, and many staff are being asked to work from home if possible.
- The Central Services Building boiler replacement project is still ongoing and is expected to continue throughout the spring. There are roughly 15 parking spaces fenced off, with the area being used to store materials. Although another boiler needs to be installed, January or February is not an ideal time to do that, as something could go wrong leading to more damage due to freezing temperatures. There are also supply chain issues that FM

is trying to sort out. A piece of equipment required for the project may not ship to Halifax until May or June, which would leave the parking by CSB unavailable.

- There are many vacancies for reserved parking in the Risley, Tupper, McCain and CSB (levels 1-3) parkades. Previous reserved permit holders who did not renew their permits in September 2021, have lost their spots which were sold to the people on the waitlist.
- The HRM By-law for Dalhousie University to get building permits - There was a requirement that the university hold a specified number of parking space in the university corridor (Studley and Carleton campuses). About a month and a half ago, HRM withdrew that requirement, however there is no intent to reduce the number of parking spaces on campus. This is important as there is ongoing development planning for the physical sciences buildings on the Studley campus (physics laboratory and the Chemistry Building expansion). This work will impact the Dunn and Biology lots.
- The parking application we are currently using is 10 years old. We are looking at replacing the application to better integrate with some of our existing systems. The web page will likely look different around August or September.

Security Report:

- Given the current state of the province due to the Omicron variant (5th wave), classes are online for the month of January 2022. We are expecting in-person classes to resume in February, with students returning to residences starting January 29th, 2022. There are roughly 300 students currently living in residence, but we expect this to go up to 1800 by the end of January.
- We've had very low levels of security activity but have been busy with facilities' issues due to the cold weather. The rapid freeze and thaw has caused broken pipes and flooding, affecting all four campuses.
- Building access control protocol clarification - Initially access control was centralized under Facilities and Security, with buildings locked and staff asked to work from home. During the current wave, the decision was made to decentralized building closure decisions under the various deans, department chairs and building administrators. There are different models that Security is working with for the different campuses. Mr. Burns expected that the university would reopen by mid-January but that has been extended to the end of January due to the omicron wave.
- Dalhousie University Security officers are well trained as advance medical first responders and have also been trained in mental health first aid. For the calendar year 2021 we've had 184 calls that were classified as medical assistance, covering mental health first aid, first aid, as well as slips and falls. 37 of the 184 calls were related to drug and alcohol misuse while 40 were directly related to mental health issues. They ranged in severity, sometimes requiring intervention and referrals to local hospitals for counseling, treatment, and follow-up. These types of activities are expected when looking after a community of about 21,000 students and 5,000 staff.

5. Transportation

K. D'Souza reported on the following items:

- Scott McPhee is currently working on the parking lot audit, which was completed in September and October of 2021. The accessibility audit is also included as part of this. The data on parking trends can be expected in the next couple of weeks.

- Employee Bus Pass (E-Pass) – This is up and running with a December registration for a start date of January 2022. 200 people registered for the program, which is down by 150 compared to the previous registration.

6. New Business

There is nothing to report at this time.

7. Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 10:22am

**The next scheduled meeting: Mona Campbell Conference Room 3207, February 15, 2022
Meeting will be done virtually through Teams meeting @10:00am.**