



South Orange Parking Authority

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Mark C. Hartwyk, *Executive Director*

Gregory A. Busch, *Counsel*

Commissioners

Marc Bromfeld
William Agnellino
Dennis Borden
Robert Sandow
Eric Siskind

OPEN MINUTES

September 19, 2023

A regular meeting of the South Orange Parking Authority was held on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 via Zoom conference call. Meeting was called to order by Chairman Bromfeld at 7:04pm.

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 17, 2023

Roll call was taken.

Present: Chairman Bromfeld, Commissioners Agnellino, Borden, and Sandow.

Also Present: Mark Hartwyk (ED) SOPA Counsel Greg Busch, Neva Rodriguez and Trustee Haskins.

Absent: Eric Siskind.

Financials: All financial reports were forwarded to the Treasurer in advance of this meeting. The ED gave the cash position as of September 19, 2023 for the SOPA accounts \$273,408. and NJ Transit \$383,914.

Approval of Checks: A motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Agnellino to approve three ACH payments and SOPA checks #2221-2232 totaling \$12,181.14 and NJ Transit checks #1142-1145 totaling \$52,285.75 all were in favor.
4th Qtr payment to NJT included in this check list.

Resolution Adopting Open Minutes for August 15, 2023: A motion was made by Commissioner Agnellino and seconded by Commissioner Borden to approve, all were in favor.

Legal: No legal issues to discuss.

Public Comment: No comments.

Open Session Update:

The ED asked if any Board members had questions in regards to the amended language for the guest passes per the resolution Greg Busch drafted. The ED went on to explain that what SOPA is proposing to do with the change in language is to ensure that only owner occupied single family homes receive the guest passes. The adjustment is that we are no longer going to issue to one or two family rentals units. There has been an increase of abuse so we want to amend it as stated. Commissioner Sandow shared his concerns about the policy change, specifically regarding the documentation that is required to show proof of ownership. He cited examples of individuals who reside in their family owned home but were not listed as the owner of record (tax bill). Trustee Haskins asked if there was some element in the language of the resolution that gives a petitioner the option to appeal to the ED and allow the ED at his discretion to review and approve a specific request. The ED stated that language is not included but he does review on a case by case basis. After a brief discussion among the Board it was decided that this item would be carried to next month's meeting. This would allow Commissioner Sandow to share his concerns about the amended language via email.

A motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Sandow to go out of Open Session into Closed Session at 7:28pm, all were in favor.

A motion was made by Commissioner Borden and seconded by Commissioner Agnellino to go out of Closed Session and back into Open Session at 7:48pm, all were in favor.

Commissioner Sandow stated that a resident has inquired as to why the Authority does not accept transit checks as pre tax payments for Jitney payment. The ED stated that we do accept wage works which are the most used by our commuters for monthly payments. Neva Rodriguez clarified for Commissioner Sandow that SOPA does accept Transit as well as wage work check payments. However, when residents are attempting to pay with a pretax debit or credit card it is on the side of the merchant as to why it is denied. If the pretax card is listed for transportation and the resident tries to use it to purchase a parking pass or a Jitney pass it will be denied because SOPA comes up as "Parking Authority". She stated that she has explained this to customers who have gone back to their employees to make the adjustment and sometimes the change is made and sometimes the resident will simply receive a reimbursement from the company.

*There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Agnellino seconded by Commissioner Borden, all were in favor.
The meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.*



APPROVED