

## Parking Solutions Task Force

August 20, 2019 at 4:30 pm

1. Program Update- Cornell
2. Items to discuss from previous meetings/emails:
3. 119 West St. Kiosk location- Bob Milotte
4. Hospital Permit zone update
5. Kids Corner Parking lot use- Lori Krupke, Ex Director
6. Roberts Avenue issues- Julie Dowling
7. Municipal Building meetings
8. \$150 non-resident fee

Dear Mr. Knight,

We recently obtained a copy of the parking enforcement diagram, and it appears that a kiosk is planned to be installed in front of our home at 119 West Street.

If this is the case, I have some concerns that I would like to discuss with you. As far as I can tell from the diagram, the proposed location is in the middle of our property frontage between the access points to our front door walkway and our driveway.

The front of our property is already quite congested with summer traffic and parking and we also have one of the historic Bar Harbor visitor signs near our driveway which people tend to gather at throughout the day. Our house is also a stop along the walking tour which can often result in large groups of people gathering outside the front of our sidewalk.

We fear the addition of a kiosk will create another congestion point in front of our property which, as you can appreciate, will further impact access to, and enjoyment of, our home as well as further impede pedestrian traffic.

I notice from the diagram that other proposed kiosks on West Street are either in front of commercial properties (The Mission) or are on far corner sections near residential lots. None of the others are interfering with access points to residential properties.

As an alternative, directly across the street from our home is a property being used as a boarding house for summer workers. There are spots along that property that could accommodate a kiosk without causing interference to the access points to that building. Additionally, that side of the street has much lighter pedestrian traffic and sidewalk congestion. I would suggest that location as an alternative or perhaps some other commercial, as opposed to residential, property in the vicinity.

We understand what you are trying to do with the parking program and the challenges you are experiencing in rolling it out, but we do hope that you will take our concerns on board and consider the suggested practical alternative location.

I will give you a call this week to discuss. Thank you for your attention.

Regards,

Bob and Deb Milotte  
119 West Street  
Bar Harbor, ME 04609

- I. Contractor/Dumpster Use of Space Permit – Contractor/Dumpster Use of Space Permit: Any contractor shall be eligible to apply for a Contractor/Dumpster Use of Space Permit where there is a verifiable lack of private property area to complete a physical improvement to the property under an approved Building Permit. This permit is limited to 5 days in duration.

*Application Requirements:*

*Fee: \$24.00 per metered space/day*

*Application Materials Required: II. B. 6a*

*Application Approval by Parking Enforcement Personnel during normal business hours*

- J. Special Events Permit- Any person shall be eligible to apply for a Special Events Permit for any event requiring the blocking off of one or more paid parking spaces. This permit has a one-day duration only.

*Application Requirements:*

*Fee: \$24.00 per metered space blocked*

*Application Materials Required: II. B. 6a*

*Application Approval by Parking Enforcement Personnel during normal business hours*



- K. Hospital Permit: Up to ~~35075~~ permit-s spaces shall be issued for hospital employees to park only in the hospital zone (Hancock, Wayman, ~~Oliver, and Center, Snow, Stanwood Place and Livingston Streets~~). ~~No more than 45 permits shall be eligible for on-street parking at any one time.~~ Parking spaces are not guaranteed.

*Application Requirements:*

*Fee: \$0 plus transaction fees in the amount of ~~\$1750.00~~ \$2,250.00 annually*

*Application Materials Required: II. B. 3*

*Application Approval by Finance Department during normal business hours*

- L. College of the Atlantic Student Permit: Any College of the Atlantic student shall be eligible to apply for a student parking permit to park in "Permit Parking Only" areas.

*Application Requirements:*

*Fee: \$30.00 plus transaction fees*

*Application Materials Required: II. B. 3, 10*

*Application Approval by Finance Department during normal business hours*

#5

## Cornell Knight

---

**From:** ~~kids@corner@bar.com~~  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 09, 2019 9:32 AM  
**To:** Cornell Knight  
**Cc:** council@barharbormaine.gov  
**Subject:** Update on parking behind KC

Good Morning,

It's Lori over at Kids' Corner here to give an update on the parking lot located behind the Center.

We are now in the busy season and the lot remains to primarily sit vacant. RV's still use the lot as they have in other years but the parking spots for vehicles remain empty for most of the day. So far, just about the only day that more than one car was parking there was July 5th. Now, this week it is back to sitting empty. I am sure this data is on the kiosk but wanted to share just in case it wasn't.

With this said, I would love to request that this lot be reconsidered. It seems that it should be useful for providing parking in some fashion and if it is not filling the need for paid parking that it be reconsidered and deemed a resident/employee lot or even a joint lot. It just seems a shame for a lot to sit completely empty especially now that it is July. I realize you may not be able to do anything this year but as you look at planning for next year.

Thank you so much for your time on this matter.

Have a wonderful day -  
Lori Krupke  
Executive Director  
Kids' Corner

#6

**Cornell Knight**

---

**From:** julie dowling <[redacted]@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 06, 2019 1:19 PM  
**To:** Cornell Knight  
**Subject:** Re: Parking question

Great. The other idea was to allow residents to buy prepaid cards for meters that offer a lesser rate such as buy a 100\$ card for meter and get 150\$ worth of time. Like a metro card they use for subways but then residents get a little extra time for their money thus maybe less completely mad. I also witnessed my good friend and resident get verbally assaulted by people in a car from NJ because she didn't go right into the post office but spoke to me first they yelled it is a 15 minute space and what was she doing and they wanted to park there....is that the atmosphere that you all hoped to create?

Sent from my iPad

> On Aug 6, 2019, at 1:02 PM, Cornell Knight <manager@barharbormaine.gov> wrote:

>  
> I will share your email with the Parking Solutions Task Force. They are continuing to meet monthly to review issues as they arise, and make recommended changes to the Town Council if needed. You are welcome to attend their next meeting Tuesday August 20th at 4:30 pm in the Council Chambers, many members are in your neighborhood.

> Cornell Knight

>  
> -----Original Message-----

> From: julie dowling [mailto:[redacted]@yahoo.com]  
> Sent: Tuesday, August 06, 2019 7:27 AM  
> To: manager@barharbormaine.gov  
> Subject: Parking question

>  
>  
> Hi. I am a resident and registered for parking no problem. However once again the residents are left with the most issue. I live off Roberts ave. I have one spot I can use with my apartment which I am grateful for. However, my elderly mother is visiting, and she can't park literally anywhere. Do you expect the residents that pay taxes, shop in town, support local causes, work in town, to have to drive around and around to find parking so a visitor can use my spot? She parked at a meter for a while because I couldn't find parking and she needed to unpack. I did not see a spot within three roads of Roberts ave.

> So..my question is why do you always do all or nothing. Don't you agree that some of the lots for parking like across from jordan's restaurant and down by the shore path could have been left free? I mean first all was free and now you made it all pay. Just like rentals.

>  
> Annoyed. And if you make millions off meters I expect to not trip on cracks in every sidewalk near my house.

>  
> I mean who thinks about these things? Maybe you all own homes with big driveways but the rest of us like to have a visitor once in. A blue moon and maybe don't want to lug our groceries three blocks to park because a worker from Lamoine now parks on our road everyday all day and there are no spots. You need people for a parking committee ...sign me up .

> Julie

> Sent from my iPad

>  
>

# 7

## Cornell Knight

---

**From:** Mark Berling <mark.berling@ipsgroup.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 01, 2019 7:57 AM  
**To:** Cornell Knight  
**Cc:** 'James Willis'  
**Subject:** RE: parking lot options

Hello Cornell,

Sorry for the delay in responding.

Regarding a way for committee and board members to park behind Town Hall without paying could include the following options – provide a token which can be programmed with a value such as two hours or \$4.00. Another option is Smart Cards. That would require a larger investment including the cards and a reloading station. I think ParkMobile may be able to offer a code to provide discounted or possibly free parking.

An easy way without using the meter would be to have a downloaded “Meeting Pass” with the date of the meeting. The board member could put that on their dashboard.

As far as offering a different rate for the first 15 minutes, I have not received an answer back yet. I do know that Malden, MA provides free time using the sensors - <https://vimeo.com/341909669> .

Thanks,

Mark

---

**From:** Cornell Knight [mailto:manager@barharbormaine.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 30, 2019 11:01 AM  
**To:** Mark Berling <mark.berling@ipsgroup.com>  
**Cc:** 'James Willis' <jwillis@mdpolice.org>  
**Subject:** parking lot options

WARNING: This message was sent by an external party.

Mark,

The Parking Solutions Task Force discussed the use of the parking lot next to the Municipal Building. Right now it is open to the public (kiosk) and staff (registered plates), but they are looking for a solution for the many town board and committee members to park near the office for meetings without having to pay for parking. They thought you might have run into this before and would have some suggestions.

Also it was asked if the meters can be programmed to do the first 15 min for a quarter, all other rates remain the same. I think the screen would be confusing.

Thanks

Cornell

# 7

**Cornell Knight**

---

**From:** Mark Berling <mark.berling@ipsgroup.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 01, 2019 1:23 PM  
**To:** Cornell Knight  
**Cc:** 'James Willis'  
**Subject:** RE: parking lot options

You could still offer free courtesy time using the sensors.

Thanks,

Mark

---

**From:** Cornell Knight [mailto:manager@barharbormaine.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 01, 2019 1:22 PM  
**To:** Mark Berling <mark.berling@ipsgroup.com>  
**Cc:** 'James Willis' <jwillis@mdpolic.org>  
**Subject:** RE: parking lot options

WARNING: This message was sent by an external party.

Thanks Mark.

---

**From:** Mark Berling [mailto:mark.berling@ipsgroup.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 01, 2019 10:01 AM  
**To:** Cornell Knight <manager@barharbormaine.gov>  
**Cc:** 'James Willis' <jwillis@mdpolic.org>  
**Subject:** RE: parking lot options

Good morning,

I was told by support that it is NOT possible to program the first 15 minutes at a rate of \$1.00 per hour or \$.25 for that time and then have the balance of the parking session be at the higher rate – ie \$1.50 or \$2.00 per hour.

Thanks,

Mark

---

**From:** Cornell Knight [mailto:manager@barharbormaine.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 30, 2019 11:01 AM  
**To:** Mark Berling <mark.berling@ipsgroup.com>  
**Cc:** 'James Willis' <jwillis@mdpolic.org>  
**Subject:** parking lot options

WARNING: This message was sent by an external party.

## Cornell Knight

---

FyI

**From:** Boyne <~~boyne22~~@tx.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2019 8:08 PM  
**To:** council@barharbormaine.gov  
**Subject:** "Quaint" under assault

Dear Bar Harbor Town Council,

I went to DFW airport last night around midnight to pick up my 86 year old father and 79 year old mother, who we're returning from a week in Bar Harbor. On meager school teacher retirement income, they've been traveling from Texas to Bar Harbor for the past 20+ years. Many times they've saved their pennies to take advantage of the Bar Harbor Whale Watch tour services. They love your town.

Last night, much of the ride home discussion was focused on your new downtown parking situation, and how much they now dread going downtown and messing with the meters, payments, etc. All my father could do was shake his head. The meters pushed them to use public transit...maybe that was the goal. However, they felt like the walk from the bus stop now to the whale watch office/pier is too much for them, so they just decided not to take the whale watching tour this time. Might sound silly, but that's where they landed.

I can't imagine the financial model that will let a local business stay afloat if they're going to lose \$120 in ticket sales because of a \$4-\$8 parking tab. Feels like downtown Bar Harbor more and more mainly caters to the cruise ship foot traffic. I can't imagine that the average 1 day cruise ship passenger spends anywhere near the amount that the average in-town guest spends on vacation related purchases. Those must be some amazing port fees.

Granted, I'm just an outsider... but I've followed your parking story from afar over the past year.

My wife and I, having already bought our plane tickets, will be in there in October. For the first time in 7 years, I can honestly say I'm not as excited about coming as I normally am. Hard to wrap my head around paying for the rental car, and also paying to park said car all day, all week. Paying for downtown Boston parking is understandable; downtown Bar Harbor, not so much.

With donors like L.L. Bean helping cover island transportation cost, and with the density of MDI millionaires per square mile, sure seems like there could have been a much more "tourist friendly" creative solution to your budget crisis.

I know it must have been a hard decision, but it feels like "quaint" is under assault. Amazing times. I just hope the, "Hey, let's figure out how to monetize our 120 year old, historic, free summer concert series on the Village Green," idea never sees the light of day.

Boyne McHargue  
Grapevine, TX

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



FYI

Cornell Knight

**From:** ~~msanastas~~@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, August 02, 2019 5:05 PM  
**To:** manager@barharbormaine.gov; council@barharbormaine.gov  
**Cc:** ~~ebensalvatore~~@hotmail.com; ~~earlyward~~@barharbormaine.gov; ~~hserokin~~@gmail.com; ~~Jane@jimjack~~.com; ~~martha~~@barharborinfo.com; ~~mjay~~@boohers.org; ~~chochman~~@barharbormaine.gov; ~~dickie~~@barharbor.com; ~~reagrenberg7~~@gmail.com; ~~regaldbeard~~@maine.edu; ~~clerk~~@barharbormaine.gov; ~~finetarts~~@roadrunner.com  
**Subject:** Re: \$2 hr parking fees in Bar Harbor is all our traffic will bear

Thank you for your rapid response. My comments below, and some are rhetorical. No need to respond...you have things to do. I was a volunteer in Portland, CT's "Main Street Program" for some years, and worked for a not for profit real estate consortium in New Haven for many years, and know the frustrations of developing business.

In a message dated 8/2/2019 4:13:16 PM Eastern Standard Time, manager@barharbormaine.gov writes:

Ms Anastas,

Thank you for taking the time to write us your concerns, with a brand new program we want to hear both the positive and the negative reviews. The merchant's I asked, weren't happy.

The town did a comprehensive parking study 5 years ago and found that we were short 79 spaces during the summer and growing at 2% /year. And since that report we have lost several spaces to new construction. The town wants to improve the parking situation without putting those costs on the already stressed property tax. We get almost no state aid for education costs from the state. Like in CT, Greenwich is a rich town, and gets less revenue sharing for schools also. Bar Harbor must be a rich town- in an increasingly socialist state. The state collects many many millions of dollars from Bar Harbor sales taxes on food and lodging and income taxes; the state returns \$127,000 in revenue sharing for the town's budget. Start paying lobbyists for increased revenue sharing [including the harbor tax on cruise ships], and not for parking consultants. The town is using an asset (parking spaces) that could fund things like, satellite parking, shuttle bus services [what happened to LLBean?], bike paths, bike racks, road repairs [doesn't the state repair its highways?], streetlights, sidewalk repairs, pedestrian amenities etc. All those things will improve parking and would normally be funded by the property tax payer. If property taxes are stressed, perhaps they aren't being spent on the right things. (In CT, the unions get all the money sucked up for their benefits no matter the inflation rate, while the average non-union, non government worker gets little).

We think the program is working pretty well so far, you must have noticed that there is parking available on the streets and parking lots, much more so than in your past visits? Yes we immediately noticed before we experienced the \$2/hr, because no one is staying to "deep" shop now. Moving employees to permit parking on the side streets has improved the parking availability. ???, no matter except to the employees. The spaces seem to be turning over which will hopefully result in better sales in the businesses. Unless these are convenience stores, I doubt quick turnover is a good indication of better sales. That is why stores don't have clocks in them...but now the town has remedied that -with parking meters. We used a consultant to help set the pricing compared to similar New England tourist communities. They aren't way up in Down East, either. A local hotel operator charges \$3 per hour in a parking lot and it is regularly full. Quite possibly because it is a captive audience + the guests don't want to lug luggage and risk being knee-capped by another frenzied tourist when they cross the street.

After this season the Parking Solutions Task Force will review the good and bad of the program and recommend adjustments to the Town Council. And that will include pricing, number of kiosks and locations, enforcement issues, permit issues, the average time stayed (there are sensors in the meters) and parking lot usage. **Task Force's are really something, in my experience. Have the Force factor in the time it takes to walk from the parking space you found somewhere, order a drink, get served, order a meal, get served, flag down a waiter to get your bill, pay your bill, walk back to your car,- see what the average time is in your average restaurant. If there isn't time to do so without either overpaying the meter, or leaving your table to stand in line to pay more money at the kiosk, and then return to your cold dinner -you get deep dissatisfaction from your intended beneficiary audience.**

In regards to rest rooms. we try to stay on top of the maintenance by having them cleaned 3 times a day and on cruise ship days 5 times a day. But it is a challenge with so many visitors. With 4 comfort stations to clean the contractor is busy. **Ok, so make him busier, it isn't leaving a good impression [its disgusting]...and a good impression is what you want, ...so your money spent on the current effort is "wasted".**

Thanks again for writing. I will share your email with the Task Force.

**I do appreciate that, now I'm going to kill a lobster and eat it, in our rental with free parking, instead of going out.**

Cornell Knight

Town Manager

**Sheila Anastas**

**From:** ~~sananastas@aol.com~~ [mailto:~~sananastas@aol.com~~]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 01, 2019 11:34 PM  
**To:** [council@barharbormaine.gov](mailto:council@barharbormaine.gov)  
**Subject:** \$2 hr parking fees in Bar Harbor is all our traffic will bear

To the Town Manager and Members of the Bar Harbor City Council:

My husband and I have been spending our one and two week vacations in Bar Harbor, surrounding towns, and the Island in general for over 45 years. We raised our son to love coming here, and now he brings his son and family. We are appalled by the recent \$2 per hour parking fee in Bar Harbor!

If you thought you are winning, you ...and the merchants are actually losing:

-Instead of browsing the shops and buying from them as we always do on our visits to town, we hurriedly hit the top shops to get out of our parking space, asap. We didn't go to about 1/2 of the shops in town that we normally visit, this year.

F&I

**Cornell Knight**

---

**From:** James Willis <jwillis@mdpolice.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 16, 2019 9:22 AM  
**To:** Cornell Knight  
**Subject:** Fw: Thank You!

FYI

---

**From:** The Maples Inn Bar Harbor <~~steve~~@maplesinn.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 10, 2019 6:48 AM  
**To:** Stephen Cornell <steve@peculierboy.com>; James Willis <jwillis@mdpolice.org>  
**Subject:** Thank You!

Hi Steve and Jim!

Good morning! I was updating a guest's license plate this morning and noticed a new field in our user profile that allows us to assign room names to our plates.

Thank you so much! This taxes my wee brain far less and makes keeping track of guest permits so much easier.

Thanks again for your help with this, and have a great day!

Warm wishes, Leigh

--

Leigh and Matthew Lauck  
The Maples Inn Bed & Breakfast

Owners & Innkeepers  
16 Roberts Avenue  
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

207-288-3443  
[maplesinn.com](http://maplesinn.com)



## Cornell Knight

---

FBI

**From:** Doug Bird ~~bird@197~~@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 18, 2019 2:25 PM  
**To:** Cornell Knight  
**Cc:** Candace Hubbard  
**Subject:** Feedback to Bar Harbor Residence on revenue from parking meters and plans for use of moneies

Cornell,

First, I want to let you know that I am a big fan of parking meters, etc. Part of this, I'm sure, is because we have off-street parking at our home and I am retired.

I speak up to defend it every time I hear someone grumble about it. I went to the town website to look for information about the income we are receiving (from meters, kiosks and fines), actual costs to implement and run the system as well as a detailed plan for the use pf the income to improve our infrastructure.

I was not able to find anything beyond the permitting process. If it is available, please refer me to the link. If it is not, I suggest a PR blitz this fall to include (but not limited to):

- Actual cost to implement with a payback date
- Anticipated annual gross income in the future
- Impact of parking income on real estate taxes. I want to know what my taxes would have been if the infrastructure work was done and there was no income from the parking meters
- An outline (as detailed as possible) of the planned work to be done with a schedule.

This is probably all in some stage of development. Also, I hope that there will be a major piece in the *Islander* reflecting the above and more.

Please pass on to whomever you feel would be interested in the above.

Doug Bird

Doug Bird  
17 Edgewood St.  
Bar Harbor, ME 04609

~~bird@197~~@gmail.com  
Home 207-288-8097  
Cell 207-479-6652

Fg I

**Cornell Knight**

---

**From:** George Visconti <[redacted]@nycap.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 15, 2019 8:51 AM  
**To:** manager@barharbormaine.gov  
**Subject:** Parking Cost

We have been visiting Bar Harbor/Acadia every year since the mid 1990's. We first stayed at the Bar Harbor Inn and/or B&B's in town. We now have an RV and sometimes stay at local campgrounds and sometimes we just visit staying at the Bar Harbor Inn.

This year we are visiting and used local parking and WOW, \$2.00 per hour to park! We travel extensively and this is the highest per hour parking rate we have ever experienced. Most towns/city charge .25 to .50 cents per hour, we had to pay \$10.00 for 5 hours of visiting Bar Harbor and spending money at restaurants, ice cream, coffee shops and shopping. Please reconsider your excessive parking rates, it is not very welcoming.

Regards,  
George

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad