

## Westport Citizen Transit Committee Meeting Notes

January 23, 2013

**Attendees:** Jim Ross, Melissa Salottolo, Carolin Sigal, Peter Gold, Terry Giegengack and Transit Directors

### **Meeting Minutes:**

- Guest Speakers: Downtown Business Merchants Association members and president
  - Not enough parking for hundreds of employees across downtown businesses. When employees take up spots that is a spot that could be used for a potential customer.
  - Discussed idea of reopening Imperial Lot for employee parking with shuttle service downtown, perhaps between peak hours of 8 – 10 am and 4- 6 pm. Possible need for bus shelter at Imperial Lot.
  - Would relieve some downtown congestion – Parker-Harding plaza only has 203 spots and many taken up now with dumpsters from Hurricane Sandy cleanout.
  - Need to conduct a survey for employers to explore their needs and ideas for solutions.
    - What is your biggest challenge with employee parking?
    - What incentives could you offer with employee parking at Imperial or other lots?
    - Do your employees take the bus, train or personal cars to work?
    - How many employees? How many cars?
  - Employers could explore use of Transit Checks and payment for services on pre-tax basis
  - Special Events – possible future partnerships to promote downtown and Westport Transit such as Art About Town (May); BBQ Fest, Fine Arts Festival, Holiday Kickoff, Octoberfest, etc.
- CTC Interim Report
  - Packaged as part of Transit budget submission to town and to be posted as part of meeting minutes on town website as document of record.
- Next Meeting: Wed, Feb. 27, 7:30 pm