

Parking permit

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to a condo association and having the association determine who gets the permit.

Irene Price said the ordinance was overly restrictive, and suggested the city do like Washington D.C. and restrict parking to two hours except for local residents.

"I feel offended that I'm not allowed to get a permit," Price said.

Price said she has a driveway, which disqualifies her from an on-street parking permit.

A Decatur Street resident who rents his property complained the city had not tested its old ordinance for the season. He said he and his wife pay close to \$10,000 in taxes

and are not able to live there full time.

"If anyone deserves to park in front of my house it's me," he said.

A Sewell Avenue homeowner objected to restricting the permit to one vehicle. He said the permitted vehicle could be in the repair shop and the permit holder would not be able to park another car in the designated spot.

Kate Bennett Walther of Stockton Place had a similar concern. Her sister and she take turns caring for their mother in Cape May, and her sister has to use a rental car. She said she preferred the city issuing a dashboard placard, which could be moved from vehicle to vehicle.

Bob Biehn, a member of the

Parking and Traffic Committee, said the committee spent many months discussing some of the issues raised at the council meeting. He said it was a property specific issue and they never considered the commercial aspect. He said he would like to see council create a five, seven and nine-month permit in order to meet the needs of part time residents. He also said he was in favor of the dashboard placard and not restricting the use to one vehicle.

"You have family houses, and the spot could be empty while there is a family member in the house," he said.

Biehn recommended holding off on the ordinance change and sending the matter back to the commit-

tee, but city council opted to go ahead with the changes and reexamine the issue at a later date.

Councilman Niels Favre said he was in favor of moving forward despite the dilemma some people face. He said city council has been aware of the parking problem for 50 years, and because they could not come up with a solution that met everyone's need they did nothing.

"We need to continue to study this to make it better, but something needs to be done, so I support passing this tonight," he said.

Councilwoman Terri Swain said she agreed with Favre and said she preferred to move forward rather than take a step back.

Mayor Edward Mahaney said he

appreciated all the comments from the public, adding he knew there would have to be amendments when the ordinance was first created. He said the city received 50 applications for on-street parking permits, of which 44 have been processed, and only 10 or 12 meet the intent of the ordinance. He said loopholes in the ordinance are making the list expensive, but it would also be a shame to see the ordinance rescinded.

"At this point we need to make the decision to get the program under control for the coming season. That's why we need to pass it tonight," he said. "This is the first step to getting a better product than we have now."

Beach Theatre

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at 59 years old, is old enough to be considered for a rating. The theater also has some architectural characteristics, background, and significant persons associated with it, which would help form a basis for a rating.

Powick quickly went over Skinner's presentation, which the HPC members had already read, talking about the theater's association with theater mogul William Hunt and architect William Lee. Hunt owned some 22 theaters by the 1930s, and in 1950 he built the Beach Theatre as part of a strip mall, the first of its kind in southern New Jersey. Powick highlighted the curvilinear structure of the strip mall and its original English gardens on the street side. Coming in on the advent of television, Hunt also

included a TV room as part of the theater. According to resident Harry Bellangy, who spoke during public comment, the Beach Theatre was state of the art for its time, and the first with air-conditioning south of Atlantic City.

Powick said Hunt was an innovator for developing a pedestrian strip mall with a theater. Hunt was also a former state assemblyman and senator. He was a staunch supporter of the creation of the Burdette Tomlin Memorial Hospital, a promoter of the Cape May-Lewes Ferry project, and a publisher of several newspapers.

The architect, Lee, was a protege of Frank Furness, the architect of the Physick Estate in Cape May. Lee designed over 80 theaters in his career.

According to a report issued in March, the strip of shops maintains much of the original design. Historic architect Joan Berkey also issued a report on the Beach Theatre, saying its inclusion on the National Register indicated it met the criteria for a key contributing structure. A report from Jeanne Kolva from McCabe and Associates issued a similar opinion. In addition, Powick said, 1,500 people had signed a petition saying they wished the Beach Theatre to be saved. Powick requested the HPC vote to designate the Beach Theatre a key structure in the historic district.

HPC solicitor Robert

Fineberg said the HPC could not make the designation, but "propose" a site be rated. He said after making the proposal, the matter would be sent to the Planning Board, which would vote to support the proposal. If supported, the application would then go to Cape May City Council, which would have to amend the ordinance to include the Beach Theatre in the city's historic survey.

The members of the HPC had little comment on the request, other than to say they would support the request for rating. Corbin Cogswell said he always supported saving the theater and wished the expert testimony had been included when the theater's owner, Franks Investments, had "downgraded the whole thing."

Franks applied to the HPC for a permit to demolish the Beach Theatre and build six high-end condos, while retaining the existing retail space. Franks was first denied and then granted a partial demolition permit. A request to reopen the hearing on the application in order to hear expert testimony was denied after MaryAnn Gaffney was asked to recuse herself because her husband, Jerry Gaffney, was a member of the Beach Theatre Foundation, which was attempting to save the theater from demolition. The alternate who replace her, Warren Copeland, vote for granting the permit.

The rating of the Beach Theatre would obviously cast the issuing of a demolition permit in a different light.

Soldier

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War II German grenade, but it has a parachute in the handle. The grenade explodes in the air and fires an armor piercing round toward the ground. Andrzejczak said the round pierced the vehicle and through its radios, sending shrapnel everywhere. This is what caused most of the injuries to the other soldiers in the MRAP.

"I took the full impact of it," he said. Andrzejczak said he knew he was hit but he heard the driver yelling "I'm hit! I'm hit!" and he thought that guy was worse off than he was.

"The squad leader asked if I was hit and I said, 'Take care of Wayshvell,'" Andrzejczak said referring to the driver.

Andrzejczak said he got out of his restraints and started crawling forward to check on the other guys, and he remembers thinking, "Man, my leg really hurts."

"I asked 'Who's hit' and they said 'You are,'" he said.

Andrzejczak said the other guys were "freaking out" and he knew if he was going to survive his wounds they would have to calm down.

"I tried to joke with them to let them know I was all right, that I was aware of my surroundings," he said.

Once he was given first aid Andrzejczak was transported to different locations in Iraq to get him stabilized. Once he was stable enough they flew him to Germany. He believes that's where the surgery was performed to remove

his left leg below the knee.

From Germany Andrzejczak was flown to Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington D.C. He arrived there on Jan. 9, two days after the attack. Andrzejczak said from the time he was wounded he began to deal with the loss of his leg.

"When it happened I thought, 'I guess I'm not going to have that anymore,'" he said.

Andrzejczak said he just decided living was more important than having both legs. He said a lot of soldiers get depressed over losing limbs, but he hasn't been there yet.

"I'm just happy to be alive," he said. Andrzejczak is now taking part in physical and occupational therapy at Walter Reed. He is also being treated for a blood clot in his lung, which is also a result of the attack. Since being there he has taken part in demonstrations about prosthetics for school children who have visited the hospital and the Walter Reed Museum. Perhaps the experience with children is what encouraged him to begin on-line classes with the intention of becoming a history teacher.

Asked about the letters he has received after being wounded, Andrzejczak said he still receives quite a bit of mail. He said since he entered the service he would receive random letters from people saying thank you, but nothing like the amount he received after being wounded.

"It means a lot. It's not something I expected. I didn't realize how much support I had behind me," he said.

Mott Associates

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May Fire Department driveway and apron.

The principal engineer, Jim Mott, began his career with the Cape May County Engineer's Office and eventually went into the private sector and was hired as city engineer for Cape May. He worked on projects such as

redesigning water and sewer systems for Columbia and Sewell Avenues, the water tower at Columbia and Madison and the Solarium project. Mott was also the engineer when the beach replenishment project began.

He also serves as the municipal engineer for Egg Harbor Township and Somers Point, and as a plan-

ner for Hamilton Township. His firm only handles municipal engineering work.

Besides having significant experience with Cape May projects, Mott and Associates proposed a lower hourly rate for the engineer, \$95, as compared to \$115 per hour for SNS and \$130 for Fralinger.

Memorials recovered

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around 9 a.m. to prepare for the dedication ceremony and found the memorial markers they installed the day before were missing.

The Bolger memorial was 12" by 12" and the Fire

Company memorial was roughly 18" by 8". Both were fairly heavy.

Kaithern said a police report was made Friday, adding that the markers were valued at several hundred dollars, but the Bolger memorial had even more sentimental value.

"Mrs. Bolger was in tears. It was heartless for someone to have done that," she said. "What was the point? If someone wanted them they would have taken them, not dump

them in the bushes. Who knows what twisted motives or logic people follow? It's just nuts."

Kaithern said other markers have been in Wilbraham Park for years and haven't been touched.

She said on Tuesday a DPW employee was cutting grass along Second Avenue and found the markers.

Anyone with information about theft should call the Cape May Police Department at (609) 884-9500.

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