

October 16, 2019

Grand Traverse Board of Commissioners
400 Boardman Avenue
Traverse City, MI 49684

Public Input - About Deterring Public Input and Public Involvement

Sadly, this County Board of Commissioners of Grand Traverse is demonstrating once again that they really do NOT want to “represent” the tax-paying citizens of Grand Traverse County. They are creating even more hurdles to citizens who spend a lot of their personal time and energy to listen, learn and speak up at government meetings.

It is obvious “We the People” are considered an annoyance, and they are happy to ignore our insights, our suggestions and pleas for help, be it about meeting times, agenda schedules, committee assignments, appointments, conflicts of interest, or destruction of our environment.

Today, the new back-room deal is to shut us out of the Government Center parking lot, by instituting “Permit-Only” parking. That means “We the People” better find somewhere else to park, democracy, and “We the People” be damned.

The listed excuse under today’s proposal states, and I quote:

“WHEREAS, due to stresses placed on parking at the Governmental Center, the City of Traverse City and Grand Traverse County have decided to provide permit parking for employees...” blah, blah, blah...

Need we remind you, the “stress” you are referring to, began with your January dictate that changed meeting times from evenings to 8:00 in the morning, which means an average of at least two dozen more cars taking up parking spaces for every Board meeting.

Since the prohibitive meeting times haven’t kept us away, forcing us to park blocks away might do the trick.

Once again: This is NOT what democracy looks like.

David Petrove

It seems **such a resolution makes better sense than the BOC resolution supporting a foreign oil company** with a tainted track record that can potentially cause chaos to our Great Lakes.

Thank you.