

**PARKING METER TASK FORCE  
MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2011**

**Present:** Citizen Members - Harvey Bravman, Dana Brigham, Lea Cohen, Cathy Kaplan, Shari Gershenfeld, David Leschinsky, Fred Levitan. Also speaking was Dana Weiner.

**Staff:** Mel Kleckner, Sean Cronin, Todd Kirrane, Nina Mitchell, Daniel O'Leary, Kevin Stokes.

**Town Administrator Melvin Kleckner welcomed the Task Force to its organizational meeting and thanked them for their service.**

**Task Force members related public complaints about meters. The consensus was that paying for parking is much more difficult now and is driving customers away from doing business in Brookline. The problems fell into two broad categories: 1. User Interface. There are software problems with the parking meters that make payment confusing. 2. Physical Issues / Safety. Concerned was raised about distance between meters and parking spots, infants left in the car while paying, distance for elderly, screens are hard to read.**

**Todd Kirrane related a recent meeting between Brookline and City of Cambridge staff. Cambridge has the same meters but a simpler interface. He said he would speak with the vendor about software complaints.**

**Mel Kleckner suggested the Task Force tackle the “low hanging fruit” first. The group agreed that should immediately test out the Cambridge model in Coolidge Corner.**

**Task Force discussed need for goodwill message about meters. Harvey Bravman and Dana Brigham agreed to work on a press release explaining the Task Force’s changes to the public.**

**Shari Gershenfeld agreed to come up with ideas for a scientific market research and survey of public about parking meter problems.**

**The next meeting of the committee was scheduled for September 22, 2011. (*Later rescheduled to September 26, 2011*)**