

## PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

*Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues*

### Meeting Minutes for the meeting on February 22, 2010

**Members present:**

Julie Briggs  
Rochelle Hart  
Julie Johnson Dresbach (Acting Chair)  
Thad Mooney  
Deb Nelson

**Members absent:**

Kate Heligas  
Chris Schiltz

**Public in attendance:**

Jean Crowe, SD Achieve  
Karla Johnson, YWCA  
Eric Miller, DakotAbilities  
Chad Powell  
Charles Santee  
Nancy Surprenant, SECOG (Presenter)

**Staff present:**

Dennis Erckfritz, Operations Manager  
Debra Gaikowski, Transit Planner  
Randy Hartman, Assistant General Manager  
Karen Walton, General Manager

**Call to order**

Julie Johnson Dresbach, Acting Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. and made introductory comments.

**1. Approval of November 23, 2009, PTAB Meeting Minutes**

Rochelle Hart made a motion to accept the November 23, 2009 PTAB meeting minutes as written. Deb Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**2. Approval of January 25, 2010, PTAB Meeting Minutes**

Deb Nelson made a motion to accept the January 25, 2010 PTAB meeting minutes as written. Rochelle Hart seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Public Hearing – Evening bus service/modification of Paratransit service hours**

Debra Gaikowski presented the proposed conversion of the evening paratransit service, which currently ends at 10 p.m., to a "Demand Response" Evening Bus Service. This would require the current paratransit service to end at 8 p.m., at which time the evening bus service would start and run until 10 p.m. The Demand Response service would serve both paratransit eligible riders and general transit riders. The reservation process, the fare for the service, and several other rules would be the same as it is for the current paratransit service. (Thad Mooney arrived at 3:53) Julie Johnson Dresbach asked if anyone from the public would like to comment on the proposed change. There were a couple of general questions and

then the board followed with discussion. Rochelle Hart made a motion to recommend approval of the proposed changes. Julie Briggs seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. Public input on non-agenda items:**

Charles Santee had some complaints regarding lack of accessibility to the bus stops due to snow removal issues. Julie Johnson Dresbach stated that there is really nothing the board or transit can do since it is either the property owners' or the Street Department's responsibility to remove the snow and not Transit's. She said he should follow the regular process for filing complaints regarding snow removal. Charles said he has done this.

**5. New Business:**

**a. Transportation Coordination presentation**

Nancy Surprenant, Transportation/Mobility Manager Planner for the South Eastern Council of Governments (SECOG), gave a presentation on the SECOG agency, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), the Coordinated Transportation Plan, and the direction the Transportation Coordination Committee is proposing to take by forming a subcommittee under the Unified Development Commission of the MPO. This will help facilitate the implementation of the recommended strategies outlined in the Coordinated Transportation Plan. This was informational only so no action from the board was required.

**b. Transit January Monthly Report**

Karen Walton presented an overview of the transit system operations for the month of January. This was informational only so no action from the board was required.

**c. Transit Marketing Update**

Debra Gaikowski reviewed recent accomplishments with the Dog Days of Summer Bus Pass Program and the fact that four businesses are on-board to participate in the program. This was informational only so no action from the board was required.

**6. Other Business:**

Karen Walton updated the members on the status of the paratransit scheduling software purchase and the fact that the current software quit working several weeks ago so all ride scheduling on paratransit is being done by hand. The company providing the new software will begin installation and training later this week.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.