

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues

Meeting Minutes

for the meeting on July 22, 2013

Members present:

Minnie Bell
Philip Jacobson
Deb Nelson
Erik Gaikowski

Public in attendance:

Marjorie Dreesman
Joe Dvorak
Julie Johnson Dresbach
Chad Powell
Charles Santee

PTAB Members absent:

Jean Crowe
Greg Johnson
Megan Myers

Staff present:

Mike Cooper,
Dennis Erckfritz, Operations Manager
Amber Gibson, Planner II, SECOG
Randy Hartman, Assistant GM
Eric Meyerson, General Manager
Sam Trebilcock, Transportation Planner

Call to order

Deb Nelson, Vice-Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board (PTAB) meeting to order at 3:48 p.m. and made introductory comments.

1. Approval of June 17, 2013, PTAB Meeting Minutes

Erik Gaikowski made a motion to accept the June 17, 2013, PTAB meeting minutes. Minnie Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Public input on non-agenda items:

Charles Santee told the Board that the road closures during Hot Summer Nights created challenges to using the transit system and asked that the public be notified in a timely manner of route changes. Charles requested that the website be updated more frequently and that the SAM Twitter feed be utilized to notify the public of route changes. Sam Trebilcock and Eric Meyerson informed the Board and public that SAM would become involved in special event planning in an effort to improve transit service during such events.

3. Presentation to Julie Johnson Dresbach for Dedicated Service

Sam Trebilcock presented Julie Johnson Dresbach a plaque for her years of dedicated service from June 2007 through May 2013, which included many accomplishments that were a direct result of Julie's input. Julie thanked the Board and complimented the management and public input.

4. New Business

a. Introduction of New PTAB Members

Sam Trebilcock introduced two new PTAB members, Philip Jacobson and Minnie Bell, to the Board. PTAB members, staff, and public in attendance introduced themselves. This item was informational only.

b. Introduction of New PTAB Staff

Sam Trebilcock introduced Amber Gibson from SECOG to the Board. This item was informational only.

c. Election of Officers

With only four PTAB members present, Eric Gaikowski made a motion to defer the Election of Officers to the next meeting. Minnie Bell seconded the motion and discussion followed. The motion was defeated with a unanimous no vote. Eric Gaikowski made a motion to nominate Deb Nelson as Chair. No other nominations were made. Philip Jacobson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Eric Gaikowski made a motion to nominate Jean Crowe as Vice Chair. No other nominations were made. Minnie Bell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

d. Transit Coordination Activities

Amber Gibson updated the board on coordination activities. Information on fuel discounts and fuel cards was disseminated to human services agencies that provide transportation services to their clients. Brandon City Transit held a stakeholder workshop as part of the development of its coordinated plan. Meetings were held to discuss the possible expansion of the transportation services provided Project Car and Workers on Wheels. United Way has formed a sub-committee to increase transportation services for the elderly. This was informational only.

5. Old Business

Transit Fare and Operations Analysis Update

Sam Trebilcock reviewed the information provided to the Board at the June meeting and stated that while the budget process is still in progress, the expected short-fall of federal funds will likely result in [changes to transit services - cuts to non-core services such as the trolley, school tripper services, night demand services, and paratransit services beyond the ¾ mile service area](#). Sam stated that the Mayor would be giving his budget address this week and there would be opportunity for public input on the budget at future city council meetings. This item was informational only.

6. Reports:

a. June Operations Report

Eric Meyerson provided a report on the ridership statistics of Sioux Area Metro for June. Fixed-route ridership is up 1.92% for the same time period last year. Also, paratransit is down about 6.69% compared with 2012. This item was informational only.

b. Transit Marketing Committee

[Dennis Erekfritz](#) [Randy Hartman](#) informed the Board that the Marketing Committee rode the Route 3 bus to Caribou Coffee for its July meeting to familiarize the committee members with the system, during which the Marketing Committee members discussed the clean buses and ease of use of the transit system. The Committee members also discussed setting up similar trips for other groups to learn about the transit system. This item was informational.

7. Other Business:

No other business was offered.

8. Adjournment

Erik Gaikowski made a motion to adjourn and Minnie Bell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Deb Nelson adjourned the meeting at 4:40 p.m.