

MetroWest Regional Transit Authority

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes Monday, March 1, 2010

The MetroWest Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board met on Monday, March 1, 2010 at 4:30 p.m., at the MetroWest Center for Independent Living, 280 Irving St. Framingham, MA, at the call of Mr. Carl Damigella, Vice Chair, Holliston. Mr. Damigella asked for a roll call of communities. In attendance were; Charles Hughes, Natick, Christopher Peck, Sherborn, Nancy Savoie, Marlborough, Kris Kiesel, Sudbury, Brian Herr, Hopkinton.

Also in attendance was Edward Carr, Administrator, Charles Stevenson, Counsel, Jim Parker (First Transit), Joanne Thompson (Thompson Transit). A quorum was not declared.

Administrator's Report:

- **Fixed Route Service:**

The Purchase and sale of the MWRTA maintenance facility at 37 Waverley St, Framingham was finalized Friday February 26, 2010. 80% Federal Funds, 20 % State Funds were used to purchase with the final total sale price of \$805,000, this was in line with original appraisal. A clean 21E was received and rent costs can now re-allocated to operating budget.

\$500,000 in fed/state funds for build out of facility which is estimated to be completed by June 30, 2010.

Negotiations have begun with First Transit relating to a one year option included in their current contract.

FSC & Marketing firm on system maps found in member's packet (FSC, Downtown Framingham, system map).

- **Demand Response:**

West/ Central Region RFP - More service in Central Region.

Looking to develop more service in Central Region.

GeoLabs/DOT/MBTA sharing GPS technology to enhance transfer capabilities.

Update on RIDE task force committee and progress of the MW RIDE guide development and distribution.

State Auditors clean audit- more policies need to be implemented as the MWRTA grows.

MWRTA Staff attended training for FTA Triennial Review.

Lynn Ahlgren is working on JARC, New Freedoms and CLAMP grants.

One JARC grant is for potential service in East Marlborough.

Comments on the Administrator's Report:

No Comments on Administrator Report

Old Business

Interoperability Report- Charles Stevenson

10 RTAs in process of purchasing the same fare boxes- includes interoperability component. Demonstration set for March 9, 2010- fare box & other machines on display. Charlie Card customer will be able to use on MWRTA fixed route buses.

Discussion ensued regarding how the fare system will work.

Reimbursement will be billed to the MBTA.

Certain details will need to be worked out.

Kiosks to come.

Directors and Operators Insurance has been bound 1,000,000.00 limit, AIG as of Jan 21st.

State Ethics Law - Board members will be emailed link to ethics test.

Compensation subcommittee - Committee needs more time.

New Business- No New Business

Ridership numbers - discussion of separate routes

Mr. Herr asked about Route 5 – South Street averages 6 riders per day.

Grocery trip numbers for Sudbury not included in fixed route ridership, those numbers are included in demand response ridership.

Discussion ensued on budget vs. ridership.

Discussion on fixed route vs. demand response ensued.

50% budget goes to Paratransit which is 20% of service provided.

Ridership has consistently increased.

Other Business- No Other Business

Questions and comments from the audience:

Tim Kelly of JFK Transportation -
Retired Police officer still parked in fire lane (Jan 15)
Sherborn ridership is not posted on website.
Detailed ridership numbers not public - available on request.
Natick COA director Moira Munns, expressed overall dissatisfaction with service, specifically that the elderly are having difficulty with the transfers.
Wayland is not receiving ridership numbers.

Holliston/Milford meeting article in MW Daily News - quote regarding ridership and expansion of service.
Mr. Damigella responded with summary of the meeting with Milford officials.
Offer from MWRTA to join.
Milford is also considering GATRA (Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority), needs assessment will follow.
There was discussion on the possibility of MWRTA taking over Milford COA transportation.
Mr. Damigella commented that the service would be on a trial basis since it is not known if ridership would be different considering there's only one run in the evening and one in the morning.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 26, 2010 at 4:30pm.
at the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority.

The meeting ended at 5:15pm

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Certificate

The undersigned being the duly qualified clerk of the MetroWest Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board, acknowledges that the foregoing minutes accurately reflect the actions taken at a legally convened meeting of the Advisory Board held on March 1, 2010.

Joseph F. Nolan, Clerk