

TRANSIT COMMISSION MINUTES

November 9, 2012

Attendees: Sara Anees, Kevin Hundelt, Erin Howard, Mary Murphy, Jane Tuttle, Michael Graham (for Carlye Yanker), Peg Livingood, Julie Loring, Robert Nugent, Mike Sweeten, Tomas Lindheimer, Marcus Tetwiler, Donna Hultine, Danny Kaiser, and Margretta de Vries.

The meeting was called to order at 3:34 p.m. Tuttle made a motion to approve the minutes from October 12, seconded by Murphy. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Reports

Staff

Tetwiler reported that route 30 has been adjusted by 5 minutes on each of the first two trips in the mornings, so that Meadowbrook residents can get to 8 a.m. classes. Route 30X handled this demand last year, and it was overlooked when the Transit Guide was approved. He also reported on the progress of Isaac Cook's research project related to GPS realtime location, and MV's Timepoint software mentioned at Student Senate meetings, which we hope to advertise it to students in January. Tetwiler also said that work is progressing on the YouTube videos, and Loring suggested that the language be as descriptive as possible, and include closed-captioning.

Kaiser sent the commission sign-up sheet around again, as not everyone had signed up in the first meeting, and there was discussion about meetings for committees. He then reported additional orientation information about the fleet, fuel contract, and infrastructure. Kaiser gave a summary of the number and relative ages of our vehicles, and there was discussion about preventive maintenance. Regarding the fuel contract, Kaiser reported that we are currently contracted through June, at a rate of \$3/gal for gasoline, \$3.36/gal for B5, and \$3.38/gal for the winter mix of 80/20. There was also discussion about the art of negotiating a fuel contract. Relating to infrastructure, Kaiser said that there are currently RFPs out for shelters, benches, leaning rails, and trash receptacles. He added that these have been budgeted for several years, but some shelters will finally be going up next summer.

City

Nugent reported that the downtown transit hub has been in jeopardy for quite a while, after having been forced out of the original location, and now new construction threatens to do the same again. He said that he is working on getting approval from the City Commission to move to 9th & Vermont. The timing of such a move will depend on when the construction work begins.

Service Provider

Sweeten reported that there has been a lot going on internally at MV, and noted that they have as many employees as the Lawrence Police Department.

New Business

Route 29 / AEC

Kaiser explained that the Applied English Center is currently chartering a bus to get their students home, primarily for those living along route 29 because the route ends before their last class of the day, and route 11 to 9 is not a good transfer at that time. He said that he is working with AEC to find the most cost effective plan, which he proposes is to add one more trip to the end of the schedule for route 29.

This would be much more cost effective, and if approved, would begin in January. There was some discussion about the AEC scheduling issues, how it was handled in the past, and what other options there might be for these students.

Old Business

Manual

Kaiser explained how to read the document's tracked changes, and said that he would like to get approval for changes in pages 9-15. He reviewed each page, summarized the pages, and provided the rationales where needed. The sections under review cover the fare structure, the services that are provided, and the public meetings that replace route hearings. There was discussion about the manual originally being intended as a detailed document about the day-to-day and year-to-year operation of the transit system, and is now being shifted to be a more policy-oriented document. There was also discussion about the lost and found policy and how it came about.

Tuttle made a motion to accept the changes on pages 9-17 in sections 3-5 as presented, which was seconded by Howard. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.