

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues

Meeting Minutes for the meeting on March 22, 2010

Members present:

Rochelle Hart
Julie Johnson Dresbach
Kate Heligas (Chair)
Thad Mooney
Deb Nelson
Chris Schiltz

Members absent:

Julie Briggs

Public in attendance:

Clara Hart
Charles Santee

Staff present:

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

Call to order

Kate Heligas, Chair, called the Public Transit Advisory Board meeting to order at 3:45 p.m. and made introductory comments.

1. Approval of February 22, 2010, PTAB Meeting Minutes

Chris Schiltz made a motion to accept the February 22, 2010 PTAB meeting minutes as written. Julie Johnson Dresbach seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Public input on non-agenda items:

Charles Santee relayed an incident at a bus stop near the Canaries Baseball stadium. He stated, when getting dropped in a driveway near the bus stop, the ramp slope was too steep. The wheel of his wheelchair got jammed and the driver had to assist him. Charles felt it was unsafe for him and the driver. Karen said she did not see a write-up about the incident from the driver and told Charles, as she has in the past, that paratransit service is available to passengers if they are required to use a stop that is not ADA accessible to get to their destination.

Clara Hart, City Council candidate for At-Large, District A, introduced herself and proceeded to request bus service to a residential area north of West Maple Street on North Career Avenue. She said she has heard from several people needing bus service in this area. Karen explained that Transit is aware of the need for service in that area but, unfortunately, the operating dollars are not available to support an expansion of a route to serve it.

3. New Business:

a. February Transit Monthly Report

Karen Walton presented an overview of the transit system operations for the month of February. This was informational only.

b. Transit Marketing Update

Debra Gaikowski updated the members on the activities of the Transit Marketing Committee. She discussed the businesses participating in the Dog Days of Summer Program, the final poster was shown, and the dog tags, which will be used as a bus pass for the high school students, were displayed. Debra also stated that there has been good participation at the meetings from the committee members. The next task will be to develop an official Transit Marketing Plan.

c. Transportation Coordination Committee Update

Debra told the board members that the Transportation Coordination Subcommittee was approved by the Urbanized Development Commission of the Metropolitan Planning Organization at the March meeting. The members for the first subcommittee have been chosen and they will tackle the task of gathering vehicle and ride data from all agencies and organizations providing transportation services.

d. Recovery Act Grant – Project Update

Debra had included a spreadsheet in the board packet listing the projects that have been completed using the grant funds received through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant. The projects are paid with 100% Federal money. This information is also available on Transit's website at www.siouxareametro.org.

4. Other Business:

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.