

PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY BOARD

Advisory committee to the Mayor on public transit issues

Meeting Minutes for the meeting on January 24, 2011

Members present:

Kate Heligas
Julie Johnson Dresbach
Greg Johnson
Thad Mooney
Deb Nelson
Chris Schiltz

Members absent:

Jim Madsen

Public in attendance:

Phyllis Arends, NAMI SD
Tami Francis, VOA, Reentry Program
Lynn Jongeling
Sharla Keyser, VOA, Reentry Program
Ken Laughlin, NCPVA
Delores Lipp
Jim Mathis, Adwerks
Carol Oren, Adwerks
Chad Powell
Charles Santee
Mona Skidmore
Nancy Surprenant, SECOG

Staff present:

Dennis Erckfritz, Operations Manager
Debra Gaikowski, Transit Planner
Randy Hartman, Assistant General Manager
Tierza Lanham, Paratransit Manager
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. Thad Mooney arrived at 3:47 p.m.

1. **Approval of November 22, 2010, PTAB Meeting Minutes**

Chris Schiltz made a motion to accept the November 22, 2010 PTAB meeting minutes as written. Deb Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

2. **Public Input on Non-agenda Items** – Charles Santee voiced several complaints about bus stops not being accessible. He was reminded that he has paratransit service for trips involving inaccessible stops. He stated that he does not want to use paratransit service. He also suggested that the information about using paratransit service to inaccessible stops be posted so conditional paratransit users know this is an option. Debra Gaikowski stated that she will get the information on Transit's website, posted at the transfer stations, and in the buses.
3. **Old Business:**
 - a. Route changes – Debra gave a brief overview of what took place at the November meeting in regard to the proposed route changes and then asked that the Board take action on the proposed elimination of Route 12 which was deferred until this meeting. After discussion among the Board members and receiving comments from the public, Greg Johnson made a motion to eliminate Route 12 due to low ridership numbers. Chris Schiltz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
4. **New Business:**
 - a. **Exterior Bus Advertising**

Jim Mathis briefly discussed and displayed various new Johnny Carino's ads they would like to see on the buses. Currently, Johnny Carino's ads are on the backs of several of the fixed-route buses. The Board commented on each. One ad had been previously rejected by City staff as not appropriate. No action was required.
 - b. **PTAB 2010 Summary**

The Board was given a summary of the activities they accomplished in 2010 at the PTAB meetings. Debra asked for any changes or additions to the list. No action was required.
 - c. **PTAB 2010 Meeting Attendance**

Each Board member was given a record of their attendance at the 2010 PTAB meetings. Debra commended the members on their outstanding attendance and passed on her thanks for their commitment to the process.
5. **Reports:**
 - a. **Transit Year-end Report**

Karen Walton thoroughly reviewed the year-end statistics for Sioux Area Metro including ridership, expenses, safety, and completed ARRA projects.
 - b. **Transit Marketing Committee**

Debra stated there are two new members on the Transit Marketing Committee. She also commented on the progress of the reloadable Flash Card pass option which should be available to the public in February. Debra also mentioned that in the February edition of the Active Generations newspaper there will be an article about Sioux Area Metro's services.
 - c. **2011 – 2015 Transit Development Plan**

Debra reviewed the content of the completed Transit Development Plan and explained that it would be presented to the City Council sometime in February.
6. **Other Business** - None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.