

KALAMAZOO TRANSIT AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

Minutes of May 22, 2015

Members Present: Chairperson Garrylee McCormick
Lynn North
Zach Lassiter
JJ Meddaugh

Excused Members: Ken Jones

Unexcused Members: None

City Commission Liaison Present: Jack Urban

Staff Members Present: Sean McBride, Executive Director
Joan Melekian, Admin Office Specialist
Richard Congdon, ADA Coordinator
Larry Zuiderveen, Dispatch Supervisor

Others Present: Megan Arndt, KATS
Michelle Moxley, TAG - Disability Network
Michelle McGowen, Disability Network
Linda Teeter, KCTA/CCTA
Leona Carter, DNSWM
Pablo Naumann, Oakwood Neighborhood
Cheryl Lord, Oakwood Neighborhood
Lizzie Stuart, Oakwood Neighborhood

Chair Garrylee McCormick called the meeting of the Transit Authority Board of Directors to order at 8:17 a.m.

Introductions

Introductions of the board made by Joan Melekian, Metro Transit staff and guests present. Sean commented to the board and members present that board member Andy Havice gave notice that he would no longer be serving on the Transit Authority Board.

Changes and Additions to the Agenda

None

Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

None

(cont.)

Issues / Items for City Manager / City Commission

Sean commented there was one item coming up for approval by the City Commission which is the procurement of a new bus camera system. This would include six (6) new cameras on each bus with advanced technology (ability to upload / download footage) replacing the current use of video tapes. This new system will be 100% funded through State and Federal Grant dollars.

Presentation by Richard Congdon – MCC 2015 Passenger Survey Results;

Richard reported that of the 1,098 surveys sent out on March 20, 2015; 204 surveys were completed and returned for a 19% response rate. Overall, 97% responded that they were very satisfied / satisfied with the service. Final report attached.

Presentation by Larry Zuiderveen - Proposed Route Changes for Sept. 2015;

Dispatch Supervisor, Larry Zuiderveen discussed three (3) potential route changes slated for Sept. 2015.

➤ **Route #6 – Parchment**

- Purpose – to address Glendale Blvd Neighborhood concerns, maintain service to Barclay Hills, to follow the 2009 Perteet Recommendation of service on major thoroughfares
- Bus Stop Changes – remove 4 stops on N. Burdick, 1 stop on Mosel, 6 stops on Virginia Ave, 1 stop on Orient Ave, 4 stops on Glendale Ave
- New Areas Serviced – East Paterson; Water Reclamation Plant, Industrial Businesses, Kalamazoo Valley River Trail. Mt. Olivet; Kalamazoo Township Hall & Police Department, Spring Valley Park, Spring Valley Crossing. Riverview Drive; The Fountains, Kindleberger Park, Parchment Public Library

➤ **Route #9 – Gull Road**

- Purpose – to eliminate two (2) dangerous left hand turn onto a high traffic volume road, maintain service at New Park Village, to provide service to housing on Gull Road such as Big Bend
- Proposed Routing – Outbound – continue east on Gull Road to Nazareth Campus, Inbound – provide service into New Horizon via Saint Albans Way
- Bus Stop Changes – no stops eliminated, added stop at Big Bend Apartments

➤ **Route #21 – Solon/Kendall/Lafayette**

- Purpose – to increase “on time” performance, avoid a heavy traffic area in which no bus stops are present
- Proposed Routing – from Howard Street left onto Valley Drive, right onto Rankin left onto Business Court

(cont.)

Action Items:

- a. Meeting minutes of March 27, 2015 – Motion for approval of the minutes as presented made by Zach Lassiter, supported by JJ Meddaugh. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Income and Expense Statement for April 2015 – Motion for approval of the I & E Statement as presented made by JJ Meddaugh, supported by Zach Lassiter. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Reappointment of Josh Stephens to the LAC – Motion to accept the reappointment made by Zach Lassiter, supported by Lynn North. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Proclamation for Dump the Pump Day – Motion to Proclaim June 18th “Dump the Pump Day” made by JJ Meddaugh, supported by Zach Lassiter. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items:

a. Email from the Oakwood Neighborhood Association – Sean McBride summarized that he had been in contact with Ms. Cheryl Lord from Oakwood Neighborhood Association in regards to service on Route #4 no longer coming into the Oakwood neighborhood. Instead, the route now stops on Oakland Drive and Parkview Lane. Sean went on to state that based on driver feedback and suggestions by the routing committee in March of 2014 changes were made to the route #4 which services Oakwood. Tight roads, geography and non-signalized intersections in the neighborhood made it difficult for drivers to access the internal part of the neighborhood safely. These concerns were considered when the route changes were implemented. Sean went on to report that he would like to work with the neighborhood association for alternatives to resolve these issues and perhaps the Community Service Van Program could help meet these individual's needs.

Cheryl Lord introduced Lizzie Stuart, President of the Oakwood Neighborhood Association and stated that their board had passed a motion to work with Metro Transit in the hopes of again having the fixed route system service in the Oakwood neighborhood. Currently it services only Oakland and Parkview which limits the number of residents able to get to those locations for bus service. A suggestion was made to possibly have parking on only one side of the street to allow safer and easier passage for the buses. It was also noted that Parkview Hills, is currently receiving fixed route service.

At this time, Mr. Naumann addressed the board with his current situation and that buying his home in the Oakwood Neighborhood was due largely in part to its ease of access to the fixed route service in place at the time of purchase.

Sean summarized that a referral would be made to the Route Committee for further data evaluation and he would update the Board at the next meeting.

Jack Urban, City Commission Liaison expressed a desire to expedite the route study. Suggestion was also offered for a Community Service Van to be utilized in the Oakwood Neighborhood as an alternate/temporary solution to the hardship incurred by the route changes. Sean agreed this could be a viable solution to the transportation needs of the affected community.

(cont.)

Discussion Summary Report: *reports provided in packet but not on agenda

Diesel Fuel Report – report attached

Public Safety – Daily Activity Report attached. Any agreement between Metro Transit and Kalamazoo Public Safety is under review and a meeting is scheduled in the coming weeks to finalize.

KTC Retail Space – Sean stated that there was a final lease agreement as well as a check for deposit but that the agreement is not yet signed. An update will be available for the next TAB meeting.

10 Year Vision Plan – Consultants will be on location here at Metro Transit on June 10th & 11th as well as times for public input sessions which will help identify future public transportation vision plans.

Information Items:

Ridership Report – report attached.

Wheelchair Lift/Ramp Incident Report – report attached.

WMU Student Ridership – report attached.

Demand/Response Monthly Summary Report – report attached.

Master Calendar of events - attached

Miscellaneous Comments made by the Board: JJ Meddaugh asked for updates on KVCC and additional townships. Sean stated they had met with Pavilion Estates and they are concerned about loss of fixed route bus service. It was determined other options would be explored including use of Community Service Vans. Discussions with Oshtemo Township about service agreements are ongoing. Texas Township / KVCC are working on details of shared costs for continuing service in that area and will be forthcoming when available.

Public Comments:

Leona Carter and Michelle McGowen from Disability Network updated the board on the success of Metro County Connect in the community and reminded the meeting guests and board that there is a and open house / lunch at Disability Network in celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Adjournment - TAB meeting was adjourned by Chair Garrylee McCormick at 9:20 a.m.

Minutes transcribed and presented by Joan M. Melekian

Reviewed and approved by:



Sean McBride
Executive Director
Metro Transit

8/14/15
Date