

# **Transit Commission Meeting Minutes**

## **November 7, 2018**

The Transit Commission meeting of Wednesday, November 7, 2018 was called to order by Vice Chairman Dustin Perceful. Other commissioners in attendance included Dr. Kathleen Cates and Barbara Houston-Blatchford. Staff in attendance included Director Ken Savage, Mike Irwin, Lori Carr, Marly Wadley, Angela Crase, David Hewitt, Jeff Turrentine and Nancy Kain. Chairman Charles Poole and Allison Davis were unable to attend. Citizens in attendance were; Keley Simpson, Tisha Ousley, Allison Ousley, Jady Watson-Fisher, Effie Lynn, Reese Brewer and Barbara Ball.

Director Savage gave an update relating to the draft minutes of the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. He spoke of how the Rogers Express was doing extremely well. There was standing room only in some of the hours, which are good problems to have and staff is working to mitigate those issues. Angela Crase told the commission how a passenger had told her it cut his ride time almost in half and he really liked the change. Mike spoke of how the Grand route had 197 passengers which is extremely busy for any route. Vice Chairman Perceful asked him if buses were moving through the lights yet. Mike replied we had about 85% of the lights in action for the emitters which has helped keep the routes on time.

Director Savage brought up the comment he received at the last meeting from Mr. Kenneth Greene. Mr. Greene spoke of how difficult it was to access the bathrooms at the transfer station. The doors are heavy and hard to open. He said there were local in kind funds left in the land value that could be used to leverage federal funds for improvements. He placed the item in the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).

Director Savage then took a moment to introduce transit's new Driver Supervisor, Marlene (Marly) Wadley.

1. **Minutes of the August 15, 2018 meeting:** There were no further comments regarding the minutes. Commissioner Cates made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Houston-Blatchford seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by a vote of three in favor and zero opposed.

2. **Presentation of a shelter art pilot project for consideration:** Mrs. Tisha Ousley and her daughter Allison Ousley were introduced to the commission. Allison is the artist whose art is being considered for the shelter art pilot project. The shelter that is slated for the art is located at Darby Junior High School. Allison presented her art to the commission for consideration. Commissioner Cates asked about the budget and the responsibility of the project. Ms. Simpson represents First Presbyterian Church who donated \$5,000 which we are hoping to use to leverage federal funds for this project. Allison presented a list of questions she had for the commission which became the task list for the project. Once we have all the information to move forward we will implement the art project and provide a summary report to the transit commission at the next meeting. Vice Chairman Dustin Perceful made a motion to move

forward with the artwork as a pilot project at Darby Junior High. Commissioner Cates seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of three in favor and zero opposed.

**Review for approval of the 2019 Holiday and Free Ride Day Schedule:** After a short discussion regarding the Hanna Oil & Gas day, Vice Chairman Dustin Perceful made a motion to accept the 2019 Holiday and Free Ride Day Schedule and change the December 21, 2018 free ride day to the Hanna free ride day and make December 31<sup>st</sup> as a free ride day replacement. Commissioner Houston-Blatchford seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of three in favor and zero opposed.

### **3. Other Business**

#### **• Transit Update**

- **Scheduling Software:** Direct Savage gave a quick update on where the department was with the scheduling software. After a very detailed individual scoring system the overall winner was RouteMatch. Once everything is in place the install usually takes 3-6 months and it will include wi-fi on all the buses.
- **Shelter Update:** Mike Irwin informed the commission that all the sites have been located and eleven pads are down and one shelter is up. Staff is waiting on a couple of permits from the state and hopefully will have all seventeen shelters up by the end of the year.
- **CNG Fueling Station:** Director Savage said staff received two bids and they went with the lowest bid which was just under 1.5 million. They expect to have the contract in place by the end of the year and it could be completed by next October. The project includes the work on the maintenance facility.

**4. Commissioners Forum:** Commissioner Houston-Blatchford asked if staff knew about the shelter on 50<sup>th</sup> street. Director Savage said the panels had been kicked out similar to the ones in the shelter at Hope Campus. Those had been kicked out three times before. Therefore, staff decided to leave them out permanently. The expanded metal panels do not affect the structure itself. He asked her if she thought it looked okay and she replied, it looked fine.

**5. Citizens Forum:** Ms. Barbara Ball said she liked the Rogers Express and asked why transit had not done the same thing to all the other routes. Director Savage replied, funding is the reason even though we would like to be able to make the other routes express routes as well. Ms. Ball also asked if the Trolley could cover Park Avenue and she was told it really wasn't possible because it is too far out from the area the Trolley is able to cover.

After a brief discussion, the commission set the next meeting date for February 13, 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.