

RALEIGH TRANSIT AUTHORITY
JANUARY 8, 2015
MINUTES

The Raleigh Transit Authority met on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, Raleigh Municipal Building, Raleigh, NC with the following present:

Chairman Les Seitz, presiding
Corey Branch
Jason Horne
Ray Magsanoc
Sheila McCullers
Tony Pecoraro
Debra Rezeli
Jane Thurman
Billy Warden

Staff present: David Eatman, Mike Kennon, Scott McClellan

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Les Seitz. The following items were discussed with actions taken as follows:

AGENDA – APPROVED

There were no additional items added to the agenda; however, Mr. Eatman reminded members about the January 26 Retreat. Discussions will relate to how the Authority would like to measure itself in the future and how to define success. Metrics and processes will be developed in order to do that in the future. The Retreat will begin at 8:00 a.m. and discussions will begin at 8:30 a.m. with the retreat ending by noon. Lunch will be provided with the summary taking place between 12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m.

Mr. Eatman reported the Regional Branding Launch was scheduled for next week; however, it is not scheduled for March 25, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in front of the NCDOT Building. The rain date is March 30, 2015.

Mr. Eatman indicated members were provided a handout with the summary of revenues from First Night including ridership at the 2 park & rides. Additional information will be ready by the next meeting. He noted great response was received from event sponsors and media. This was a trial run and there will be some recommendations forthcoming on how to make this better next year.

Mr. Eatman indicated staff is still moving along with advertisements as they come in. Currently there is \$62,000 worth of ads over the last 60 days. He indicated staff is still

booking ads and collecting contract revenue. He noted he would be interviewing in the near future to get the Marketing position filled.

Mr. Eatman indicated members received via email budget summary documents and there was a new one provided at this meeting. There is not a change in expenses regarding how CAT operates; it is how we classify our contract revenues which does make the budget look large. He reviewed the information provided briefly.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – RECEIVED

Chairman Seitz hoped members had a nice holiday and are ready to get back to work noting many changes relating to transit are coming up and the Authority will be busy.

Chairman Seitz referred to the Wake Transit Plan noting he attended the first meeting that was open to the general public with 600 in attendance. He reported a lot of questions were asked and a general overview was provided. Mr. Branch and Mr. Horne are on the Stakeholders Group and provided a report on the December 19 meeting.

Mr. Branch reported there were representatives from across Wake County at the December 19 meeting. Attendees went through a workshop and divided into teams and went on to develop a transit system covering an imaginary city. There were 18 groups. They discussed which designs cover the city best from frequency via 15 minute headways to 30 and 60 minute headway. These were narrowed down to the 2-3 best plans. This information provides an idea of where everyone is thinking to see how it fits into different modes of transportation. Questions asked included coverage and ridership. The group will meet again on January 20. They will still meet with different organizations outside to receive input. Chairman Seitz noted people seem to prefer ridership over coverage. The ultimate plan the group comes up with will be a hybrid.

Mr. Horne indicated this was a workshop that was a well designed exercise for people in the room to see tradeoffs on how you have to balance all factor in a transit system. There was a series of questions the group voted on at the end. Mr. Eatman indicated ridership and frequency go hand in hand. Mr. Branch indicated how we increase our frequency on New Bern Avenue and Capital Boulevard compared to Route 6 going to Crabtree one time per hour. Route 6 would be coverage and Routes 2 and 15 would be more ridership. Mr. Horne noted the facilitator was very familiar with streets, routes, etc. in Raleigh. Mr. Branch indicated whatever plan the group comes up with, buy in for the County has to be considered. He further indicated all municipalities had representatives on the panel.

ACTION ITEMS

MINUTES – NOVEMBER 20, 2014 – APPROVED

Members had received a copy of the November 20, 2014 meeting minutes prior to the meeting. Mr. Horne moved approval of the minutes as presented. His motion was

seconded by Ms. McCullers, unanimously passed. Chairman Seitz ruled the motion adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT – RECEIVED

Mr. Horne reported the Finance and Policy Committee met on December 18, 2014 and Mr. Eatman reviewed the proposed budget.

Proposed FY 16 Transit Budget:

Mr. Eatman explained he presented the 2016 proposed budget and is shown as an action item on this agenda. The recommendation from the Committee was to approve the proposed budget. He explained the budget will continue to be refined over the coming months. He noted once the final budget is adopted, staff will bring that back to the Authority. The detailed line item budget includes revenues and expenditures. He reviewed the budget in detail. The Capital Improvement Program will be presented to the Authority at the next meeting. As things change, the Finance Committee will be updated. In response to a question, Mr. Eatman indicated expenditures are 5% above last year.

Following brief discussion, Mr. Horne moved approval of the proposed budget. His motion was seconded by Mr. Magsanoc, unanimously passed. Chairman Seitz ruled the motion adopted.

MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT – RECEIVED

Ms. Thurman reported the Marketing Committee did not meet in November 2014.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NONE RECEIVED

No one asked to be heard.

ROUTE COMMITTEE REPORT – RECEIVED

Mr. Magsanoc reported the Route Committee met on December 18, 2014 and was referring to the Authority 2 action items.

Route Change – 19 Apollo Heights:

Members received in their agenda packets Attachment B showing Route 19 Apollo Heights. Mr. Eatman indicated this issue is safety related. Mr. Walker explained the issue involves the left turn onto MLK Boulevard and the change is requested due to this difficulty requiring a left hand turn across a divided 4 lane facility. If this change is allowed, staff will visit the local CAC and get their endorsement due to the safety matter. This change will present some inconvenience but will be a tremendous increase in

efficiency and makes the overall route much better. The new route was reviewed with Mr. Walker explaining this takes stops off Grantland and Lunar Drive and moves the stops to Peyton Street which is a 34' street. Grantland and Lunar are 24' streets with cars parked creating much difficulty for the busses to travel on those routes. The primary concern is a bus heading inbound onto MLK Boulevard is wide and in a blind curve. There have been 8 accidents at this location and a bus was T-boned in the side. Mr. Horne indicated the change was approved by the committee because of the narrow roads and dangerous curve.

Chairman Seitz reiterated the CAC will be informed and the Authority could approve the route change now. Mr. Branch questioned the ridership on the current route.

Mr. Eatman explained in his mind with that left turn, the outbound right turn onto Grantland is possible but not preferred and that is something staff can bring back with feedback from the CAC. He noted bi-directional service on Peyton would be much better. He indicated if major feedback from the CAC is received, that can be relayed to the Route Committee. He requested permission to take this to the CAC with bi-directional service on Peyton Street and would like to indicate to the CAC that the Transit Authority agrees with the change.

Mr. Branch questioned the number of stops on the current and proposed route. Mr. Walker indicated there would be a minimum of 3 stops on Peyton Street. Ms. McCullers stated there the change would lose a lot of senior citizens on the outbound side of the current route.

Mr. Eatman explained staff would prefer bi-directional service on one street. He also noted staff will bring back any major concerns after this is explained to the CAC. He indicated the final recommendation would come back to the Route Committee at their next meeting, even if the committee meeting has to be delayed in order to get this presented to the CAC. He indicated he would like to get these changes done as soon as possible.

Mr. Branch moved that staff take the suggested changes to the CAC. His motion was seconded by Ms. McCullers, unanimously passed. Chairman Seitz ruled the motion adopted.

Bus Stop Placement Review Route 2:

Members received in their agenda packets Attachment C showing Route 2 Stop Segments. He noted there was a lot of discussion on Glascock Street near Oakwood and on segments 3 and 4. Mr. Eatman referred to the shopping center where Papa Johns is located on the north side of Six Forks Road at Wake Forest Road. Throughout discussion at the committee meeting, all segments were approved except Segment 5. He explained the Authority can move forward with all segments except Segment 5 and take this segment back to the Committee or ask that staff move forward with the design. He referred to a couple of small spots where a compromise was necessary on Wake Forest

Road. All elements were approved by the Route Committee except Segment 5. Mr. Eatman stated staff can move forward with notifications to the public until Segment 5 can be finalized. Segment 5 can go back to the Route Committee to be finalized and brought back to the Authority in February.

Chairman Seitz moved approval of the Bus Stop Placements as shown on the Attachment with the exception that Segment 5 be referred back to the Route Committee. His motion was seconded by Ms. Thurman, unanimously passed. Chairman Seitz ruled the motion adopted.

STAFF REPORTS – RECEIVED

Members received in their agenda packets the following staff reports:

1. Statement of Income (October 2014)
2. Variance Analysis (October 2014)
3. Go PASS Ridership Summary (October 2014)
4. Go PASS Ridership by Agency (October 2014)
5. Accessible Raleigh Transportation Summary (October 2014)
6. Operating Statistics (October 2014)
7. Route Statistics (October 2014)
8. Ridership Percentage by Time Period (October 2014)
9. Evaluation by Route (October 2014)

CONCLUDING REMARKS – RECEIVED

Mr. Horne referred to the Regional Branding Launch and whether the busses will be ready before that. Mr. Eatman indicated a bus will be presented at the Authority's retreat and should have several completed by the time of the launch in March. All 10 new busses are in and have the red on silver paint and only 1 has the logo.

Ms. Thurman indicated the next Marketing Committee will be held the 1st week of March.

Mr. Branch requested that the Authority receive an update of Moore Square Improvements at the next meeting. Mr. Eatman reported in February the schematic design will be taken to 35% design and request approval to move forward with design/build. Staff hopes to move forward with the design/build in 60-90 days and expects construction to begin in early summer.

Mr. Thurman asked if the results from the RLine Study will be provided to the Authority. Mr. Eatman indicated staff, in February, can provide the Authority a full RLine portion of the Kimley-Horn presentation. That will aid the Route Committee as it starts talking about routing of RLine, etc. A refresher presentation can be done on that also. He indicated there were 2 alternates in the report presented and staff will provide that again in February.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Hunt