

Minutes
Kankakee County Transportation Committee
Conference Room, METRO Centre
1137 E. 5000N Road, Bourbonnais, IL
Tuesday, August 28, 2018 @ 10:30 AM

Members in attendance: Laura Dick, SHOW BUS; Ken Munjoy, River Valley METRO Mass Transit District; Michelle Allen, Cornerstone Services, Jennifer Cappellano, Derek Torres, Veteran's Assistance Center of Kankakee County, Debra Hubly, Kankakee County Health Dept.

Others present: Geoff Olson and Mike Mergenthaler, Kankakee County; Anna Johnson, Kankakee Terrace, Natasha Elliott, The Salvation Army.

Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Dick called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM, welcomed everyone, and asked everyone to introduce themselves to the committee.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes

Chairwoman Dick asked members to review the draft minutes from the January 30, 2018, March 7, 2018, and May 14, 2018 meetings and asked if there were any changes. There were none. Ms. Allen motioned to approve all three sets of minutes. Ms. Cappellano seconded approval of all three minutes. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Change of Committee Membership

Mr. Olson explained the changes to the committee membership. The first change was update the membership for the Veteran's Assistance Center of Kankakee County to Derek Torres who is the current superintendent. The other update is for the Kankakee County Health Department. Mr. Bevis has delegated meeting attendance to Debra Hubly who is the Director of Client Services for the Health Department. Ms. Allen motioned to update the committee membership accordingly. Ms. Cappellano seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

Election of Officers

Chairwoman Dick asked if there were any nominations for a chairperson of the committee. She nominated Mr. Butler to continue as chair. There were no other nominations. She asked if there were any nominations for vice-chairperson. Mr. Munjoy nominated Ms. Dick to continue as vice-chair. There were no other nominations. Mr. Torres motioned to accept and approve the nominations. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. Unanimous vote. Motion carried.

HSTP Coordinator Issues

Mr. Olson stated the Rural Region 6 Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Committee will met last Monday. He stated the Rural Region 6 HSTP will start to get updated in the near future. There is a goal to include coordination between rural and urban transit providers in the

plan. McLean Regional Planning Commission staff are starting with Connect Transit to see how implementation goes.

Agency Transportation Needs, Interagency Coordination and Accessibility Issues

Mr. Munjoy said the capital project to improve accessibility at bus stops is proceeding. Currently IDOT is processing the award concurrence. Mr. Munjoy stated it is the goal of METRO to have all their stops wheel chair accessible.

Chairwoman Dick said Medicaid has started rolling out transportation for clients with limited means of transportation. She reported some transportation providers request individuals with a wheel chair leave their wheel chair for the ride and place the wheel chair in the trunk, however not everyone is comfortable with this process. Ms. Cappellano asked which transportation providers are offering their services for the managed care organizations. Chairwoman Dick stated Secure Transportation is coordinating transportation for Molina and Logisticare is coordinating transportation for Blue Cross and Blue Shield and Illini Care. In order to ensure the trips are fairly being distributed among transportation providers, a lottery type system is used to issue trips, however there are many layers to the process and it can take a significant amount of time, which can be confusing to the transportation provider and the client.

Disability/Aging/Transportation Issues

Ms. Allen said Cornerstone Services did not apply for a vehicle through the consolidated vehicle procurement program. She reported their clients are very happy with trips via public transportation.

Mr. Cappellano said she is happy to hear of METRO's ADA improvements, and Options CIL has had a great working experience with SHOW BUS. She suggested an improvement to Mr. Munjoy for better service at the VAC.

Ms. Hubly stated the Health Department is happy that METRO has a route that stops in front of their building because it is very convenient for clients. She said they receive transit tokens for METRO service to give to clients, however staff feel the bus schedule is difficult to understand and asked Mr. Munjoy if training could be given so they could better provide suggestions to clients on using METRO's service.

Mr. Olson stated Kankakee County is processing their intercity bus grant agreements. They will go to the County Board next month. The service is to extend the Momence service to the Greyhound stop and install a bus shelter in Sun River Terrace and Momence.

Mr. Torres said the VAC bus still continues to provide trips to Hines. In the future the VA will be offering bus transportation between Joliet and Kankakee. Currently there is not a way to use public transit between the two areas. Ms. Allen asked what the frequency of that service will be. Mr. Torres said it would be five days a week making several trips per day.

Program Status of Transportation Providers

Ms. Dick stated the transit applications agreements for the regular rural transit service have not been issued by IDOT. The intercity bus agreements are in processing.

Mr. Munjoy reminded everyone that last year, starting on July 1, METRO began their new routes. This year, METRO implemented some improvement to those routes, most of which were along Route 2. He stated the last six months of ridership on the Midway route is up forty percent over the same period one year prior. He noted the ridership on the University Park service has flattened. Riders are able to travel between Kankakee and Chicago using the Midway service and CTA for less than the Metra fare, which can add up for daily commuters.

Questions from the Media

None.

New Business:

None.

Next Meeting

Mr. Olson said the next Region 6 HSTP Meeting is October 15, 2018 at 9:30 AM. The next CTC meeting will be on October 30, 2018 at 10:30 AM at River Valley METRO.

Adjournment

Chairman Dick asked if there was any other business to come before the committee. Hearing none, she adjourned the meeting at 11:10 AM.