

1 **Minutes**

2 Kankakee County Transportation Committee

3 2nd floor – Kankakee County Administration Building

4 189 E. Court Street, Kankakee, Illinois.

5 Audio/Video Meeting

6 **Tuesday, April 26, 2022 @ 11:30 AM**

7 Members in attendance: Laura Dick – Show Bus, Karen Smietanski – V.A.C, Jeanette Tetreault –
8 Thresholds, Megan Wileman – AgeGuide, Amy LaFine – Kankakee County Health Department,
9 Michelle Allen – Cornerstone, Siron Sims – River Valley Metro, Erin Richey – Good Shepard
10 Manor, Mike Butler (Current Chairperson) – Good Shepard Manor

11 Members of the public in attendance: None.

12 Staff Members present: Ben Wilson, Rob Fischer

13 **Call to Order**

14 Meeting was called to order at 11:30AM

15 A quorum of committee members was in attendance.

16 **Meeting Minutes**

17 A motion was made by Jeanette Tetreault and seconded by Laura Dick to approve minutes for
18 the following committee meetings: June 29th, 2021, August 31st, 2021, November 30th, 2021, &
19 March 29th, 2022. The motion was unanimously approved.

20 **Public Comment**

21 There was no comment from the public.

22 **Consolidated Vehicle Program (CVP) approval**

23 Mr. Wilson discussed with the committee the CVP program approval and moved the members
24 towards asking for specific type of vehicle and number of vehicles needed for their respective
25 agencies. Jennifer Sicks, who is the current Region 6 IDOT HSTP (Human Services
26 Transportation Plan) Coordinator, will also weigh in on the vehicle award process. Wilson
27 added that agencies who want to participate in the CVP program must participate in the
28 meeting process.

29 The individual agency representatives then submitted their requests for vehicles. Veterans
30 Action Committee was looking to receive a van. River Valley Metro was seeking 6 super
31 medium vehicles, along with 3 medium duty units. Good Shepard Manor was asking for 2
32 replacement minivans. Show Bus was looking to acquire 1 vehicle. Thresholds desired 1 light
33 duty vehicle and 2 minivans. Cornerstone, AgeGuide, and the Kankakee County Health
34 Department did not ask for any vehicles.

35 **HSTP Coordinator Update**

36 None at this time.

37 **Agency Transportation Needs, Interagency Coordination and Accessibility Issues**

38 River Valley Metro did not mention any additional needs at this time. Laura Dick of Show Bus
39 reiterated to the committee she feels the mask mandate “is an accessibility issue”, as she
40 prefers it to stay in place, for the benefit of their clients’ safety.

41 **Disability/Aging/Transportation Issues**

42 Jeanette Tetreault told the committee that she is grateful for the support of the CTC
43 committee, as well as the CVP program. Cornerstone Services mentioned that their current
44 fleet of vehicles is “running fine”. Option CIL had no representative present. Good Shepard
45 Manor’s Erin Richey and Mike Butler thanked everyone for their support.

46 Amy LaFine of the Kankakee County Health Department reported that they still have Tuesday
47 and Thursday walk in flu, COVID, and pneumonia vaccinations available. She also added that the
48 county is in a “low level” with regard to infection rates from COVID-19. Lafine told the
49 committee that the county has an overall COVID-19 vaccination rate near 51%. She added that
50 there are no current transportation issues for the Health Department.

51 Megan Wileman of AgeGuide told the committee that they have partnered with Catholic
52 Charities to reach out to older adults needing transportation to receive their COVID booster
53 shots.

54 Mr. Wilson, speaking for Kankakee County, had no additional update at this time. Karen
55 Smietanski of the V.A.C. also had no new information.

56 **Program Status of Transportation Providers**

57 Laura Dick of Show Bus reported she is monitoring current potential changes to the managed care
58 industry. Siron Sims of River Valley Metro told the committee that they expect the new transit center
59 Downtown Kankakee to be open at the end of May. Sims mentioned that weather and steel supply had
60 slowed the project down somewhat. He also added that the agency is currently “about 6 drivers short”.

61 **New Business**

62 Mike Butler of Good Shepard Manor will be retiring in July. The committee nominated Laura
63 Dick of Show Bus to be the new committee chair. The motion was made by Karen Smietanski
64 and seconded by Mike Butler. Prior to the motion, a motion to nominate candidates was first
65 closed by Jeanette Tetreault, then seconded by Karen Smietanski.

66 **Media Questions**

67 There were no questions from the media.

68 **Next Meeting**

69 The next meeting of the Kankakee County Transportation Committee is slated for 10:30AM on
70 August 30th, 2022.

71 **Meeting adjourned**

72 The meeting ended at 11:59 AM.