

## Carroll County Transit Advisory Committee

### Meeting Minutes

June 1, 2010

#### **Members Present:**

Jack Rose	Howard Cunningham	Donna Sargent
Ted Laliberte	Beverly Raymond	Dorothy Soloman
Carter Tarenzini	Benny Jesseman	Bert Astles
Brenda Gagne	Shelley Winters	Patrick Herlihy
Cimbria Badenhausen	Ed Labonville	Mary Deppe
Glenna Nelson	Barbara Anerson	S. Bentley

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Jack Rose called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm. There were no minutes to review from the last meeting so approval and acceptance was not done. Jack mentioned that last month's minutes needed to be received from Mike Lancor.

Ted gave an update on the system. Ted had put together some News Releases and Letters letting residents know where the system is at and why there are delays. Ted mentioned that he is sending them out regularly. Ted also mentioned that he has received several inquiries about driving positions. Ted is letting those who ask about employment know that the service has been delayed.

Ted mentioned that he has been receiving signed MOU's from the property owners of where the bus stops will be located. Ted will be working with Bev to get the Insurance Certificates from TCCAP's insurance company for all the property owners.

Howard informed the group about a meeting that Malcolm presented at in Sandwich. Howard said that the majority of the group was elderly individuals. Howard commented that the group was not interested in getting up so early in the morning to catch the Commuter Bus to Laconia. Howard asked if anyone knew how the other towns along that run felt about the timing of the runs. Howard suggested that CCT work with Belknap-Merrimack and inquire about coordinating the schedules in such a way as to accommodate needs of residents.

Shelley Winters from NHDOT updated the committee on the vehicles. The 16 passenger vehicles are being made by National Van out of MA. Bev mentioned that she had spoken with a representative from the company while at the CTAA conference. Bev received the information for the direct contact person at the bus company that she could talk to about when the buses might arrive. The 8 passenger vehicles are being built by Northern Bus out of Hudson NH. Shelley said that her guess for the system to start would be Labor Day. Shelley also mentioned that the monies to fund the project had already been approved and set aside to operate the system. She also mentioned that CCT was going to be receiving some monies from the State of NH as well.

Jack asked Shelley if she could get something in writing from the bus manufacturers as to when the buses would be delivered. Jack reminded Shelley that everything including the Marketing Campaign hinges on the arrival of the buses. Shelley said she would contact the bus companies about a delivery date.

Brenda updated the committee on the new phone number for CCT. Fairpoint did not have a toll free number available with the "Blu Loon" numbers. Brenda was told to contact Amazing Numbers who owns vanity phone numbers. After speaking with a sales representative, Brenda was told that the Blu Loon number was not available. There were other Bus related numbers that could be used. The sales representative told Brenda that it would cost \$675.00 per year just to lease the specialty phone number. This cost was in addition to the Fairpoint monthly service charge and usage cost. The new toll free number for CCT is 1-866-752-6890 the regular number is 603-752-1542.

Shelley updated the committee on the RFP. Shelley said that she and Kit Morgan had reviewed the protest sent in by Mike Curreri. It was the decision of DOT that the RFP process was flawed. DOT wants CCT to form a new sub committee to review the proposal sent in by Mike Curreri so that there will be an unbiased and fair review of his proposal. No member of TCCAP may be on the reviewing committee. The subcommittee will meet with Mr. Curreri and answer any questions he may have and he will also have the opportunity to make changes to his proposal. Carter objected to Mr. Curreri being able to submit new information on his proposal. Carter felt that the subcommittee should only be able to see his original proposal. Shelley responded by saying that they would use the original proposal but that Mr. Curreri would be able to add any additional information. Essentially, a new proposal. Brenda mentioned that Mr. Curreri was now privy to CCT's budget information because it was reported on the previous proposal reviews. Shelley said that NH DOT funding was a matter of public record and that the funding CCT was receiving could be viewed online. Brenda mentioned that NHDOT funding was not all the funding that CCT received for the "Fixed Routes" and that those totals were now known to Mr. Curreri.

Shelley said the new committee should contact Mr. Curreri to notify him that they will be reviewing his proposal. Jack asked for volunteers for the new subcommittee. Cimbria

Badenhausen and Benny Jesseman volunteered to be on the committee. Howard Cunningham will be asked to join the committee. Mary Deppe and Carter Terenzini offered to help the committee in an advisory capacity. Reviews must be completed by June 18, 2010. Beverly will email the RFP, Addendum, Mr. Curreri's proposal and the review forms to Carter. When the review is complete Shelley said that the Review Committee should contact DOT and Mr. Curreri with their results. Carter objected to this procedure. Carter reminded Shelly and the CCT committee that this was an advisory committee only. The committee has no legal standing to enter into a contract with Mr. Curreri or make a decision to do so. Carter said that the committee could only advise and make a recommendation to TCCAP to either accept or deny the proposal by Mr. Curreri.

Bev asked Shelly why the RFP had to be done? Shelley explained to the committee that federal regulations state that a federally funded project could not displace an existing fixed route provider and/or workers. Therefore the project had to be opened for bids. Several committee members said to Shelley that there wasn't any existing fixed route providers and that Mike Curreri hadn't operated service for almost 2 years and that it was by Mr. Curreri's own admission in a news paper article that he was no longer running his "Village Trolley". This brought about more discussion among CCT committee members as to why the whole RFP process was even necessary.

Carter said that he felt that the committee should file a protest with DOT about the whole RFP process. Shelley responded that a protest should have been made before the RFP process began. It was mentioned that CCT was told that they should issue the RFP by NHDOT and that no protest or appeal process was ever mentioned by DOT in regards to putting out the RFP.

Patrick updated that the 7<sup>th</sup> RCC had been approved.

Mary Deppe mentioned that North Country Council was working with Lakes Region Planning Commission to form the RCC for Carroll County.

Jack mentioned that the CCT committee needed to elect new officers. Jack had spoken with Dave Senecal. Dave asked Jack to fill in for him as Chairman in his stead because he was unable to make it to the meetings. Jack asked anyone that was interested in being on the Executive Board to contact Ted Laliberte with their nominations for positions. Jack asked that he be considered for the Chairman position and that Dave Senecal be considered for the Vice Chairman position.

Shelley mentioned that the Winnepesaukee Transit System did receive their funding for operations for one year. WTS will be contacting CCT to coordinate the two systems stop locations and times.

There was no public comment or other business.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 pm.

*Next Meeting is July 6, 2010 at 1:30 pm at the CAP Tamworth Building.*

Respectfully Submitted

Brenda Gagne