

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
700 A-SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE ROOM
NOVEMBER 18, 2008
2:00 P.M.

The Citizens Advisory Committee of the Mass Transit Department Board met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m. Committee Chair Ms. Robin Roberts present and presiding and the following Committee Members answered roll call:

Ms. Robin Roberts
Mr. Lawrence Harley (Alternate Member)
Ms. Jane Ratcliff
Mr. Frank Lozano (Alternate Member)
Mr. Ernst Erbe
Ms. Amy Lechuga
Ms. Mary Castillo
Ms. Suzanne Fabian

The following members were not present:

Ms. Soledad Galvan
Mr. Alexander Catucci
Mr. Walt Phillips
Mr. Ernesto Dominguez
Mr. Richard Sheldon

Agenda

1. Call to order.

Item 1: The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

2. Public Comments

Item 2: There were no public comments.

3. Approval of the minutes of the October 21, 2008 CAC Meeting.

Item 3: Ms. Mary Castillo made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Jane Ratcliff seconded. All in favor.

4. Clarification by City Attorney Staff and discussion on: (CAC)

- Sharing of member information among members;
- Public Comments by CAC members or alternates;
- Membership of public officials or candidates for public office on CAC; and
- CAC member terms expiring in November 2008.

Item 4a: Ms. Osborne suggest that no one should be in contact with each other, Ms. Ratcliff stated that she is in other committees and that she has info on other members, Ms. Osborne explained that other committees have different rules and bylaws and explained the "Open Meetings Act".

Item 4b: Ms. Osborne stated that public comments can be made by members and alternates but they need to be present.

Item 4c: Ms. Osborne stated that members can hold public office and be a member of the CAC per three resolutions that set up this committee.

Item 4d: Also discussed were the terms that expired in November 2008.

5. Discussion and action on use of sewer gas to fuel Sun Metro vehicles. (CAC)

Item 5: Mr. Bunce explained the sewer gas and pilot programs that are in effect in California. No Action taken.

6. Discussion and action to recognize Mr. Robert Geyer, County of El Paso Rural Transit, for his contributions to the efforts of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature regarding funding for public transit. (CAC)

Item 6: Ms. Ratcliff gave information on Silver-Haired Legislature and would like to send a congratulatory letter to Bob Geyer for his Resolution that was passed and approved on September 11, 2008, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature to support transportation needs for Seniors. Ms. Ratcliff made a motion to approve, Mr. Richard Sheldon seconded. All in favor.

7. Discussion and action to recommend to the Mass Transit Department Board that Sun Metro provide free bus passes for certain students receiving scholarships to the El Paso Art Museum. (CAC)

Item 7: Ms. Jane Ratcliff discussed the scholarships that are awarded to children ages 6 to 18, they are chosen based on financial need and that demonstrate interest in art. Also it is as based on the application and letters from parents and teachers. Mr. Omick suggested that the scholarship packages being awarded include the cost of a bus pass for both parent and child. No action taken.

8. Discussion and action to recommend to the Mass Transit Department Board the approval of a proposal from LULAC Project Amistad to Texas Department of Transportation for additional transportation funding to provide special transit services in this region. (CAC)

Item 8: Javier Banales discussed the proposal from LULAC for additional transportation funding to provide transit services to colonias where city buses don't run. Ms. Mary Castillo made a motion to support and recommend to the Mass Transit this proposal and Ms. Jane Ratcliff seconded. All in favor.

9. Update on public involvement in the approval process of the Strategic Plan for the Mass Transit Department. (CAC)

Item 9: Jane Shang gave a brief explanation on the public involvement of the Strategic Plan for the Mass Transit Department.

10. Director's report on:

- 10a. Operations to include 2008 On-Time Report and Missed Service Report Comparison for FY2008-FY2009;
- 10b. Customer Service Reports for Fixed Route and Paratransit;
- 10c. Maintenance Reports to include Road Calls reported for all units, for 92's, 93's, 94's and 400's and for the 600's (from Oct. 1 – Oct 31, 2008); Roadcall Comparison for Calendar Years 2006-2008; and Mechanical PMI Tracking 2008 (Fourth Quarter).

Item 10: Mr. Omick gave a brief discussion on all three items of the Director's report and stated if there were any questions or comments. No action taken.

Motion made by Robin Roberts to adjourn meeting, seconded by Mary Castillo, at 3:20 p.m. all in favor.

Approved as to form:

Department Head/Board Secretary