

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
700-SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE ROOM
May 19, 2009
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 2:00 p.m. Committee Chairman Mr. Richard Sheldon was present and presiding. The following Committee Members answered roll call:

Mr. Richard Sheldon
Ms. Robin Roberts
Ms. Jane Ratcliff
Mr. Alexander Catucci (not present)
Mr. Troy Hicks
Mr. Walt Phillips
Ms. Amy Lechuga
Mr. Ernesto Dominguez
Mr. Lawrence Harley
Mr. Raul Zamarripa
Ms. Suzanne Fabian

Agenda

1. Call to order.

Item 1: The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Public Comments

Item 2: Ms. Karen Peissing-Venhaus made a comment regarding Route 43, suggesting an intermediary time point be added between Northgate Terminal and Tiger Eye / Angora Loop. Coach Operators have too much of a break at Circle K at Angora Loop / Tiger Blue.

Jay Banasiak stated he speak with Operations and ask if the bus could depart from Northgate a little later and still be able to remain on schedule.

3. Approval of the minutes of the CAC meeting of April 21, 2009.

Item 3: Mr. Ernesto Dominguez made a motion to approve the minutes of April 21, 2009, seconded by Ms. Robin Roberts, **with the exception** to amend item #6. All in favor.

Ms. Robin Roberts stated she would like to move item 11 up after item #6. Mr. Ernesto Dominguez commented that items #9 and #10 needed to be postponed for a month per Attorney's request. Cynthia Osborn then stated that they should discuss and make a motion on the postponement. Mr. Ernesto Dominguez made a motion to move item 9 up, seconded by Ms. Amy Lechuga. All in favor.

9. Nomination and election of a Vice Chairman. (CAC)

Item 9: Cynthia Osborn stated, Ms. Suzanne Fabian was automatically removed (in error) for failure to file the financial disclosure statement in a timely manner. City Clerk's office automatically removes the member if the financial disclosure statement is not filed within ten days of the appointment. A letter is then sent to the member and the Representative that the member has been removed. The Representative then appointed Mr. Hicks as a replacement. But, it appeared Ms. Suzanne Fabian had filed her financial disclosure statement on time and thus did not need to re-file. Ms. Osborn suggested postponing the nomination and election of a Vice Chair for a month. Mr. Ernesto Dominguez asked about Mr. Troy Hicks appointment. Mr. Troy Hicks, Mr. Richard Sheldon, Ms. Robin Roberts, and Mr. Walt Phillips all commented.

10. Discussion and action on nomination of Ms. Suzanne Fabian as alternate member.

Item 10: Mr. Walt Phillips made a motion to postpone items 9 and 10. Cynthia Osborn stated that when an item is postponed, that item is automatically placed on the next agenda. Mr. Walt Phillips then made a motion to approve Ms. Suzanne Fabian as an alternate member, seconded by Mr. Ernesto Dominguez. All in favor.

4. Discussion and action on implementation of By-Laws for CAC. (Assistant City Attorney- Cynthia Osborn)

Item 4: Cynthia Osborn said that it is up to the committee members to decide if they want to take any type of action on the implementation of By-Laws. As suggested at January 21, 2009 CAC meeting, Ms. Osborn provided copies of other City Advisory board by-laws for all members to look at to help come up with a draft. Mr. Troy Hicks asked to receive a copy of those By-Laws. Mr. Ernesto Dominguez moved to postpone item 4, seconded by Mr. Troy Hicks. All in favor.

5. Presentation of On Street Message Board. (Michael Herrera- Assistant Director)

Item 5: Comments were made by: Mr. Ernesto Dominguez, Mr. Richard Sheldon, Ms. Suzanne Fabian, Mr. Raul Zamarripa, Ms. Robin Roberts, Mr. Jay Banasiak, Mr. Troy Hicks, and Mr. Walt Phillips. Mr. Herrera said the new technology will be introduced at the new terminals, beginning with the Downtown Transfer Center, and will also be incorporated into rehabilitation of the existing terminals. One of the video components can be used to promote Sun Metro, the City of El Paso, and also to businesses, creating a new source of revenue. Every bay in all of the terminals will have on street message boards and will be ADA compliant even before the new ADA law takes effect.

6. Discussion and action on additional naming of Westside Transfer Center. (Jay Banasiak – Director of Sun Metro)

Item 6: Jay Banasiak, Mr. Walt Phillips, Mr. Richard Sheldon, Ms. Robin Roberts, Mr. Ernesto Dominguez, Ms. Jane Ratcliff, Ms. Amy Lechuga, and Mr. Troy Hicks discussed naming the Westside Transfer Center after Al Jefferson. Mr. Walt Phillips made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Troy Hicks. Mr. Troy Hicks, Mr. Richard Sheldon, Mr. Ernesto Dominguez, and Mr. Walt Phillips voted to accept the suggested name. Ms. Amy Lechuga, Ms. Robin Roberts, and Ms. Jane Ratcliff voted against the motion. The motion was approved 4-3.

11. Presentation and discussion on JARC and New Freedom proposal from Sun Metro for FY09 (Jay Banasiak – Director of Sun Metro)

Item 11: Mr. Jay Banasiak, Mr. Troy Hicks, Mr. Norman Schenck, Ms. Robin Roberts, Mr. Ernesto Dominguez, Mr. Richard Sheldon, Ms. Jane Ratcliff, and Mr. Walt Phillips all commented. Cynthia Osborn stated no action allowed. No Action.

7. Discussion and action on the relocation of one bus shelter and the addition of bus shelters at other locations. (CAC)

Item 7: Michael Herrera will assess the bus shelters discussed in item #7 and evaluate each location based on established criteria. Mr. Herrera will then take action or explain to the committee members why no action was taken. 7a.) Mr. Richard Sheldon, Mr. Michael Herrera, Mr. Ernesto Dominguez commented. Michael Herrera will assess the cost of relocating the shelter versus placing a spare shelter (if available) in that location; 7b.) No comments; 7c.) Mr. Richard Sheldon, Ms. Jane Roberts, and Michael Herrera commented. No Action.

8. Discussion and action on the installation of larger trash receptacles at all bus shelters and the installation of bike chain racks at all bus shelters. (CAC)

Item 8: Mr. Richard Sheldon, Mr. Ernesto Dominguez, Ms. Robin Roberts, Jay Banasiak, Jerry Davis, Mr. Walt Phillips, Cynthia Osborn, and Mr. Troy Hicks all commented. Mr. Troy Hicks moved that he would like to see a presentation on potential bike amenities throughout the city at a future meeting, seconded by Ms. Robin Roberts. All in favor.

12. Update on proposed express bus service between Las Cruces and El Paso. (Jay Banasiak – Director of Sun Metro)

Item 12: Ms. Robin Roberts, Jay Banasiak, Mr. Richard Sheldon, and Mr. Ernesto Dominguez all commented. (Hand-outs were given to all CAC members.) Jay Banasiak provided an update on what NMDOT is proposing. NMDOT wants an express shuttle service from Las Cruces to El Paso, utilizing three buses in both the morning and the afternoon. NMDOT proposes to use the Downtown Transfer Center as the El Paso drop-off point until the Westside Transit Terminal is complete and then operation will move to that location. NMDOT will fund most of the cost for the first year (on a trial basis). After that time, new funding will need to be secured in order to continue service.

13. Director's report on:

Item 13: Copies of the Director's Report were made available to all CAC members. Jay Banasiak and each of the Assistant Directors briefly discussed certain items. Mr. Troy Hicks, Mr. Ernesto Dominguez, Mr. Richard Sheldon, Mr. Walt Phillips, and Ms. Robin Roberts commented.

Motion made by Ms. Robin Roberts to adjourn meeting, seconded by Mr. Ernesto Dominguez. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Approved as to form:



Department Head/Board Secretary