

The Wichita Transit Advisory Board met in regular session.

Present:

Sanford Alexander

LeAnna Beat

Troy Bruun

Matt Byrum

Jason Gregory

Patricia Hileman

Keith Lawing

Michael Loop

Michael May

Robert Metoyer

Stan Reeser

Rebecca Robertson

Moji Rosson Janet

Wilson Robert

Yelverton

Absent:

Steve Anthimides

Shannon Bohm

Robert Hamilton

1. Opening

The regular meeting of the Wichita Transit Advisory Board was called to order at 10:03 a.m. on June 20th, 2018 in regular session by Chair Rosson.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chair Rosson presented a motion to the board to approve the minutes for the May 16, 2018 meeting. The motion was moved by Alexander and was second by Hileman. May 2018 minutes were approved as distributed.

3. Public Comment

Andrew Crane presented a survey to the Transit Advisory Board to gather feedback that affect the visually impaired community. He stated that there are several issues with the MyStop phone app and it is was not user friendly. He also brought up an issue with the discontinuation of the bus to Eisenhower Airport. Andrew also stated that there should be braille on the fare boxes, in addition to at the Transit Center. Board member Alexander stated that in the past the MyStop app was better and that Braille is used by less than 10% of the visually impaired individuals. Philip with Wichita Transit stated that the app is maintained by a 3rd party vendor and when we receive suggestions we pass them on to this vendor. We have Braille on the pillars at the Transit Center, but they are not on the fare boxes.

- Sharla Mills with Disability Advocates 4 Action (DA4A) with the Independent Living Resource Center (ILRC) brought a few individuals to present to the Transit Advisory Board. Cindy Florentine works as a volunteer with the ILRC since 2005. She utilizes the bus at 47th and Clifton in Oaklawn area. She would like to see service improvement. They feel isolated because there is a lack of transit services. Cindy expressed that the system need to work more on their community.
- The next speaker was Hadassah Prosser the chairperson of the DA4A, she wanted the Transit Advisory Board to know that it would be a great help for them if the buses were to return to 2nd street. This would be closer to where they live and have lots of people who have difficulty walking. Board member Hileman asked if there was sidewalks in the area. Hadassah stated there was not. Philip with Transit provided a brief overview regarding the history of the decision to remove service from 2nd street. The changes took place in 2016. More recently there was a survey sent out requesting input from former rider and residents from the ILRC. When the results and route data was reviewed the findings showed that the time or day and ridership was not consistent. Board member Alexander stated that regulations tend to favor the larger cities and not the smaller ones. Although Paratransit fills this need, it doesn't address individuals on a fixed income. The rides are \$3.50 each as opposed to \$.85 each.
- The last presenter was Nate Mosser with the ILRC visits with DA4A, stated he would like for service to return to the area. They are requesting a 4 block diversion to the ILRC, they serve new consumers in 3 counties. When new consumers have to come to the building they have to walk to get to the building or find someone to drop them off. This is creating more problems and although there was a survey new consumers were not captured. Paratransit has been offered as an alternative however, it takes 3 to 4 weeks to get the paperwork processed.

Lance Bryon with Aeroplanes brewing company introduced himself and just wanted to let the board know he was there to learn. He requested that the Q-Line travel west 2 more blocks and let it be known he has over 6,000 people on their Facebook page.

Marilyn Bower is an advocate for the Delano District and works with the homeless and

low income population. She would like to see bus service to Walmart on Meridian, see a connector to “Bedroom Communities” surrounding Wichita and earlier and later start times. She has additional suggestion and will make an appointment to see Mike Tann.

4. Discussion Items

a. Sub-Committees

Mike Tann, Director of Transit presented to the board the idea of forming sub-committees to address the specific needs of Transit such as the decline in ridership and facility infrastructure. After a spirited dialogue these sub-committees were formed consisting of the following:

- Finance –(Bruun, Hileman, Robertson, Yelverton)
- Service – (Alexander, Byrum, Loop, May, Metoyer, Wilson)
- Communications – (Beat, Gregory, Hamilton, Lawing, Reeser)

There would be taskforce form in addition to these sub-committees addressing infrastructure, vision/strategic planning. In order to be compliance with KOMA (Kansas Open Meetings Act), the members of these sub-committees are limited to six. These sub-committees would will report to the board periodically regarding specific initiatives. If additional resources are need they will have the support of the staff. Board members would be restricted to the selected sub-committee and not able to cross mix. The first meeting would take place in September, and meetings can be in person or via phone. Bylaws will be updated to reflect membership and sub-committees.

5. Information Items

a. Ridership report

Due to time constraints information was reviewed individually by the board members. Any questions or comments would be emailed to staff.

b. Marketing Report

Due to time constraints information was reviewed individually by the board members. Any questions or comments would be emailed to staff.

c. Director’s update

Due to time constraints information was reviewed individually by the board members. Any questions or comments would be emailed to staff.

7. Other Business

Mike Tann will be attending the scenario planning in order to ensure that transit is better represented on the MPO. Also, Transit will continue to partner with USD 259 to address some of their transportation needs. Transit can develop routes that work well for students who fall within the 2.5 mile limit.

8. Announcements

Next month provide results regarding Project Wichita, requesting the members of the Transit Advisory Board take the survey. July 19th there is a Regional meeting, and the Transit Advisory board is invited to attend.

9. Meeting adjourned at 11:36 am.