

***Access Advisory Committee to the Massachusetts
Bay Transportation Authority***

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Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, September 23, 2015

Board of Directors:

Chairman - James F. White

Vice Chairman - Rick E. Morin

Executive Board

Mary Ann Murray

Ian Perrault

Beverly Ann Rock

Lisa Weber

10:10 A.M. meeting opened.

Reading of the agenda

Attendees

James White, Rick Morin, Ian Perrault, Mary A. Murray, Matt Archer, Lisa Weber, Dave Tozza, and David Vieira

MBTA: Michael Lambert, Carol Joyce-Harrington, and Jessica Podesva

Other:

Will Rodman-Nelson and Nygaard

Introductions

Chairman's Report

The Chairman stated the following:

- He attended a passenger assistance training class at National Express Transit.
- He attended a meeting of the Boston Regional Core Coordinating Council (RCC).

He asked for comments or questions. There were none.

Chairman White asked Michael Lambert to give an update on the status of the RCC. Michael Lambert commented that locally progress is slower than across the state, which is where there is need, and that those needs have been identified.

Chairman White asked Michael Lambert, Deputy Administrator-Transit to update the Board on the new taxi subsidy program. *He stated* that the program is moving forward.

Treasury Report

Chairman White stated that he is waiting to hear from Ms. Woodman regarding the returned check.

Presentation by Will Rodman of Nelson /Nygaard

Mr. Rodman explained that he was contracted by the MBTA to do a comprehensive review of the MBTA's THE RIDE Program. He commented that the review would span over a nine-month period with an all-volunteer customer satisfaction survey possibly taking place in October. He stated that he will meet with the staff from the Office of Transportation Access, THE RIDE Eligibility Center, all RIDE contractor staff including drivers and office staff. He also noted that they will be reviewing vehicles. Agencies and advocacy groups will be contacted to take part in the survey. He was given a list of key organizations and agencies that could participate in the survey.

He then asked for questions. There were none.

Committee Reports

None were presented.

Presentation by Jessica Podesva from the Department of System-Wide Accessibility (SWA) and the Greater Boston Legal Services

Ms. Podesva discussed the upcoming survey to improve outreach, increase awareness, and membership. Board members provided

their input and concerns and asked that more information be provided about AACT meetings and that people give their affiliation(s) and transportation cost. Ms. Podesva noted that she would make their suggested changes. A test run will be conducted at today's full membership meeting. Ms. Podesva is targeting November 1st for the survey kick-off.

Chairman White thanked Ms. Podesva for her presentation.

A motion for the AACT Board to accept the MBTA Accessibility Survey, with the addition of a question asking the person's organization and affiliation, was made by Rick Morin and seconded by Lisa Weber. The motion passed unanimously.

He then asked for questions. There were none.

Old Business

Board members discussed the upcoming summit on accessibility which has been postponed until spring 2016. A couple of suggestions for a possible guest speaker for the summit are a politician or MassDOT representatives.

Chairman White appointed Lisa Weber and Rick Morin as Co-Chairs; they both accepted. *Board members* discussed that the possible guest(s) should be someone who would make the event a grand success.

New Business

There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

Notables

The AACT Executive Board will meet from 10:00 AM to noon and the Membership meeting will be conducted from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM on the fourth Wednesday of the month, except when noted.

AACT can be found at on the MBTA website at www.mbta.com/aact. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the MBTA and AACT; the AACT Bylaws; ADA Regulations, as well as agendas, calendar items, upcoming meetings, and past meeting minutes can be obtained by accessing those highlighted links on AACT's webpage.

Comments and questions concerning AACT should be directed to Chairman James White by contacting the AACT Coordinator, Ms. Janie Guion, at 857.702.3658 (voice/relay), 617.570.9193 (TTY), AACT@ctps.org (email), or c/o CTPS, 10 Park Plaza, Suite 2150, Boston, MA 02116 (US mail).

The AACT meeting location is accessible to people with disabilities and is near public transportation. Upon request (preferably two weeks in advance of the meeting), every effort will be made to provide accommodations such as assistive listening devices, materials in accessible formats and in languages other than English, interpreters in American Sign Language and other languages. Please contact the MPO staff at 857.702.3700 (voice), 617.570.9193 (TTY), 617.570.9192 (fax), or publicinformation@ctps.org (email).

The MPO complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other federal and state non-discrimination statutes and regulations in all programs and

activities. The MPO does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, English proficiency, income, religious creed, ancestry, disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or military service. Any person who believes her or himself or any specific class of persons has been subjected to discrimination prohibited by Title VI, ADA, or other non-discrimination statute or regulations may, her or himself or via a representative, file a written complaint with the MPO. A complaint must be filed no later than 180 calendar days after the date on which the person believes the discrimination occurred. A complaint form and additional information can be obtained by contacting the MPO (see above) or at www.bostonmpo.org.

Members needing service information or wanting to inquire about MBTA services should do so through the MBTA Marketing and Communications Department at 617.222.3200 or 800.392.6100 (voice), 617.222.5146 (TTY), Monday through Friday from 6:30 AM to 8:00 PM, and Saturday and Sunday from 7:30 AM to 6:00 PM, or via the MBTA's website at www.mbta.com/customer_support/feedback/.

Please sign in at all meetings.

Announcements are always welcome. Please be prepared to give as many details as possible: date, time, location, contact person, and phone number. A written notice is always appreciated.