

CARSON CITY PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the February 8, 2001 Meeting

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A regular meeting of the Carson City Public Transit Advisory Committee was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 8, 2001 in the City Hall Capitol Conference Room, 201 North Carson Street, Carson City, Nevada.

PRESENT: Chairperson Mary Winkler
Vice Chairperson John Peshek
David Allen
Richard Staub

PARATRANSIT STAFF: Marc Reynolds, General Manager

CARSON CITY STAFF: Kathleen King, Recording Secretary
(PTAC 02/08/01; Tape 1-0001)

NOTE: Unless indicated otherwise, each item was introduced by Chairperson Winkler. A tape recording of these proceedings is on file in the Clerk-Recorder's Office and is available for review and inspection during regular business hours.

I. ROLL CALL, DETERMINATION OF QUORUM (1-0001) - Chairperson Winkler called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Roll was called; a quorum was present. Member Kennedy was absent. Member Staub arrived at 5:41 p.m.

II. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF AGENDA (1-0006) - Member Peshek moved to approve the agenda. Member Allen seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0-2-0.

III. ACTION ON APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2001 (1-0053) - None.

IV. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS (1-0058) - Vice Chairperson Winkler welcomed Member Allen.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT (1-0078) - Mr. Reynolds advised that the Senior Service Network celebration is scheduled for April 26, 2001 at the Carson City Nugget from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Carson City Community Transportation ("CCCT") will have a booth at the event. He advised that last year, the celebration had approximately 2,000 visitors. He indicated that Paratransit Services is an event sponsor and requested that the Committee members plan to attend the event. He is considering conducting the annual service questionnaire at the event.

VI. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE CHAIRPERSON (1-0120) - Member Peshek nominated Mary Winkler

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for chairperson. Member Allen seconded the nomination. Vice Chairperson Winkler called for additional nominations for chairperson; however, none were made. [Member Staub arrived at 5:41 p.m.] She called for a vote on the pending nomination; nomination carried 4-0-1-0. Chairperson Winkler opened nominations for vice chairperson. Member Allen nominated John Peshek for vice chairperson. Member Staub seconded the nomination. Chairperson Winkler called for additional nominations. Member Staub moved to close nominations. Member Peshek seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS, TASKS, AND ROLE OF THE PUBLIC TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND IDENTIFICATION OF GOALS (1-0156) - Chairperson Winkler advised that this item was carried forward from the last agenda. She discussed the purpose of the agenda item, and referred to the resolution distributed at the last meeting. She suggested reviewing the tasks listed in the resolution, and establishing goals and assignments. Discussion took place regarding the existing meeting schedule and the possibility of holding meetings quarterly or bi-annually. Chairperson Winkler suggested scheduling a meeting in March to discuss established goals, and forming subcommittees to address the goals. Vice Chairperson Peshek suggested meeting at least quarterly unless subcommittees or task forces are formed with specific assignments. Chairperson Winkler read the Committee's mission statement into the record, and discussed her understanding that the Board of Supervisors will still need an advisory committee when the City reaches MPO status. Member Allen described the transit system established in San Joaquin County. Discussion took place regarding the PRIDE service.

Member Staub read the tasks from paragraph 4 of the resolution into the record. Discussion took place regarding the MPO status. Mr. Reynolds advised that the available funds will be earmarked in October 2002 for distribution in October 2003. Planning dollars will be available sooner. Member Staub suggested addressing funding strategies, future extension of service to other counties, and future deviated fixed route or fixed route design as the major issues in the coming year. Vice Chairperson Peshek suggested researching the costs of a deviated fixed route so that the Regional Transportation Commission ("RTC") will have the necessary information at the time the City reaches MPO status. Chairperson Winkler indicated that a feasibility study is scheduled to address this matter and provide direction to the City on how to move toward MPO status. Mr. Reynolds advised that task 4(e), to advise the Board and Commission on future extension of service to other counties, was included in the resolution as a reference in defining the MPO. He advised that transit service currently extends to Douglas and Lyon Counties, and if Carson City decides to move its transit borders to include surrounding counties, the City would be able to acquire transit funds from those counties. Mr. Schauer's feasibility study will include this consideration.

Mr. Reynolds acknowledged that the Committee is tasked with determining the needs of the community. Committee consensus was that the expectations of the community are for something more than the current transit system. Mr. Reynolds acknowledged that a deviated fixed route extending into surrounding counties could be the next logical step. Once the determination is made, costs and operation details can be determined. In response to a question, Vice Chairperson Peshek indicated that the present day limitation is funding. The system needs additional hours in order to accommodate the riders who were receiving service prior to the consolidation. Vice Chairperson Peshek expressed the opinion that the Board of Supervisors was counting on fare box revenue as a viable funding source when the system first began.

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Member Staub suggested providing a report card to the Board of Supervisors prior to addressing any other issues. Mr. Reynolds suggested reviewing the data already presented to the Board of Supervisors in the form of quarterly reports. He agreed that a report should be provided to the Board of Supervisors, but indicated that funding strategy is the most important issue to consider. Discussion took place with regard to the same, and Vice Chairperson Peshek suggested identifying the differences in existing funding and the funding needed to fulfill the obligation to the senior citizens, handicapped citizens, and other organizations and citizens utilizing the system. Members Allen and Staub requested copies of the budget. Member Staub reiterated the suggestion to provide a report card to the Board of Supervisors, including successes, failures, and reasons for the same. Consideration can then be given to changes, solutions, etc.

Chairperson Winkler indicated that the reason for creation of CCCT was to provide transportation to senior and disabled citizens. She advised that the OARC Board of Directors has written to the City and is in the process of filing a complaint alleging that the City has not served the contract. She further advised that City Manager Berkich has requested Mr. Reynolds and Chairperson Winkler to work together to solve some of the problems. She indicated that one of Mr. Berkich's suggestions was to discontinue evening service.

Chairperson Winkler suggested that the Committee develop a more concise method for reporting to the Supervisors than has been done over the past two years. Member Staub recommended that the Committee make a determination regarding its purpose, i.e., to advise the Board of Supervisors regarding transit in general or the current transit system as it exists under the current funding level and whether it's meeting the original mandates of the resolution. Discussion took place regarding rising energy costs, the relocation of Wal-Mart, the timing of this year's budget hearings in relation to providing the Board of Supervisors a report card on the transit system, and available data.

Member Staub suggested gathering the available data, reviewing the same, and developing an executive summary-type report for the Board of Supervisors prior to the start of the annual budget hearings. Discussion ensued with regard to the same. In response to a question, Mr. Reynolds advised that Paratransit's contract expires on June 30, 2001. He indicated that Mr. Berkich has requested Development Services Manager Andy Burnham to conduct research as a part of the contract renegotiation. He stated that his company has been asked to extend the contract one year under the current terms. Member Staub requested that the available data be provided to the Committee members for review prior to scheduling a meeting. In response to a question, Member Staub requested data which will reflect results relating to the services specified in the original contract between Paratransit Services and Carson City. Discussion took place regarding the form of the report card.

Mr. Reynolds discussed possible solutions being worked out in meetings with Chairperson Winkler. Discussion took place regarding the issues and problems experienced by OARC clients. Chairperson Winkler suggested gathering the data which is already in existence, and Mr. Reynolds advised that he will put together capacity data and send it to the Committee members for review. Member Allen summed up the capacity issue by stating that there is greater ridership than the system has ability to service, and the ridership can't be serviced because the system doesn't have the money to put out more vehicles.

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In response to a question, Mr. Reynolds and Chairperson Winkler explained the fee structure for the senior citizens and the OARC. Mr. Reynolds acknowledged that there are very few people who actually deposit money in the fare boxes. Vice Chairperson Peshek discussed the results of the survey conducted by the task force at the Senior Citizens Center. He indicated that most seniors have friends or relatives who can provide rides. Member Staub requested copies of the contracts, and the results of the funding allocations provided by the City.

(1-1195) Member Staub advised that he would talk to Mr. Berkich to find out whether the Committee's report should be provided to the Board of Supervisors during the budget hearings. In response to a question, Mr. Reynolds acknowledged that he could gather the requested information in a two-week time period. Chairperson Winkler listed the requested information, as follows: historical information, the contracts, the task force report, and the senior citizens survey results. Member Staub indicated that the report card should also reflect that Chairperson Winkler and Mr. Reynolds have worked together to address solutions to the capacity issues.

(1-1424) Member Staub suggested that the Committee be prepared to set the parameters of the report card at the March 23rd meeting, draw the conclusions, and make recommendations in order that the report could potentially be presented to the Board of Supervisors at their April 19th meeting.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING FUTURE MEETING DATES

AND TIMES (1-1184) - Vice Chairperson Peshek noted that the resolution directs that meetings should be scheduled at least once a quarter or as called by the chair. He suggested scheduling meetings accordingly. (1-1261) Chairperson Winkler acknowledged that the Senior Citizens Center Governing Board has been requested to appoint a representative to the Committee. She will call to find out the status of this matter. Discussion took place regarding the next meeting date, the Committee members' availability, the regular meeting date, and the time. **Vice Chairperson Peshek moved to meet once a quarter on the second Friday of each month, unless otherwise directed by the chair.** Further discussion took place regarding the regular meeting day, and **Vice Chairperson Peshek amended his motion to hold the regular meeting on the fourth Friday of each month.** Discussion took place regarding the meeting time and Committee consensus was to schedule the meeting at 9:00 a.m. **Member Staub seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.** Committee consensus was to begin the new meeting schedule on March 23rd.

VII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS (1-1437) - Vice Chairperson Peshek indicated that he felt hopeful that the Committee would begin to proceed in a determined direction, and that the Board of Supervisors will be made aware of the same.

VIII. ACTION ON PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING (1-1448) - Chairperson Winkler requested that Mr. Reynolds agendize discussion and possible action on a report card to the City; discussion and possible action on the marketing contract with SignPro; and discussion and possible action to replace the Senior Citizens Center representative. Chairperson Winkler advised that the Committee members can contact Mr. Reynolds with additional agenda items.

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IX. ACTION ON ADJOURNMENT (1-1507) - Member Staub moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:51 p.m. Vice Chairperson Peshek seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0-1-0.

The Minutes of the February 8, 2001 meeting of the Carson City Public Transit Advisory Committee are so approved this _____ day of March, 2001.

MARY WINKLER, Chairperson