



Thomas Jefferson Regional Transit Partnership

October 24, 2019

4:00 p.m.

Water Street Center

Committee – Voting Members

Diantha McKeel, *Albemarle Co - Chair*
Kathy Galvin, *City of Charlottesville – Vice Chair*
Lucas Ames, *JAUNT Urban*
Randy Parker, *JAUNT Rural (Louisa)*
Ned Gallaway, *Albemarle*
Nikuyah Walker, *City of Charlottesville (absent)*
Neil Sherman, *DRPT*

Staff

Chip Boyles, *TJPDC*
Gretchen Thomas, *TJPDC*
Sara Pennington, *Rideshare/TJPDC*
Jessica Hersh-Ballering, *TJPDC*

Non-Voting & Alternates

Karen Davis, *JAUNT (absent)*
Brad Sheffield, *JAUNT*
Garland Williams, *CAT*
Becca White, *UTS*
Trevor Henry, *Albemarle County*
James Mann, *CAT Advisory Board*
Kim McManus, *PVCC (absent)*
Jim Foley, *ACPD*
Alison DeTuncq, *CTB (absent)*
Chris Rowland, *JAUNT (absent)*
Ginger Morris, *Greene County Transit (absent)*
Sally LeBeau, *UVA Hospital (absent)*

Call to Order

Diantha McKeel called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

Ms. McKeel asked change to the agenda to move the CAT Advisory Board Update after Matters from the Public because Mr. Mann has to leave early.

Mr. Gallaway made a motion to change the agenda accordingly. Ms. Galvin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. McKeel asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

Matters from the Public

Sean Tubbs from the Piedmont Environmental Council thanked Ms. Galvin for her service. He proceeded to highlight the past year. He thanked Mr. Garland for fixing the “ghost bus” issue mentioned in the last meeting. He also mentioned that an excess of single occupancy vehicle continues to be a problem. He noted that both the County and the City have comp plans that

address this. Lastly, he said there is a January forum on why people are still driving cars at the Center for Civic Innovation.

Minutes from October 24, 2019

Ms. Galvin made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Parker seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Regional Transit Plan Funding Request

Mr. Boyles explained that John Martin with SIR facilitated the RTP in July, 2019, through a process to develop a strategic plan. Mr. Boyles gave background on the strategic plan and vision for the RTP. Some of the actionable items in the process is for the group to develop a vision, mission and strategies.

The next steps include going to Blacksburg to see how they implement their transit, in addition to pursuing funding, strategy and a timeline for development of a full-scale Regional Transit Development Plan or Strategic Plan in fiscal year 20. This has transformed into a Regional Visioning Plan. The data used in the visioning plan can also be used by JAUNT and CAT for their TSP and TDPs.

Mr. Boyles presented the Regional Vision Plan template and expounded on each of the items on the bullet items.

He noted that if a grant is awarded, a committee will create a scope for the plan. It is estimated to cost approximately \$800K. The grant from DRPT would provide \$400K and there would be a local match required for the remaining \$400K.

Mr. Boyles asked for a motion by the RTP to recommend to the City and the County to commit \$100K each for both fiscal year 21 and 22 towards the match for RTVP development and recommend that the MPO apply to DRPT for \$400K to match the local contributions towards RTVP.

He noted that if passed, the TJPDC would write the grant application that is due February 3. Ms. Galvin made a motion and Mr. Gallaway seconded. The motion was approved with Neal Shermann abstaining.

CAT Advisory Board Update

Mr. Mann reported that the bylaws were approved by the City's attorney. Ms. Pennington asked that the final bylaws so she could distribute them to the Board.

Afton Express Transit Service Plan & Funding

Mr. Boyles reported that a proposal has been made to run a service five days a week moving commuters from Staunton through Albemarle County and into the City with 4 eastbound and 4 westbound trips per day, Monday through Friday with a 32-passenger bus. The morning runs would begin at 5:15 a.m. with the last run at 9:25 a.m. and the afternoon runs would begin at 3:00 and would end at 7:00 p.m. The cost is projected to eventually be \$3 per day. Mr. Boyles went on to present the different stops proposed.

He said that this service would require local contributions and that UVA is stepping up to help in that area.

Mr. Boyles asked the board to make a recommendation to local governments to create a resolution of support for funding of this service. He noted that the resolution is what is important at this juncture and the details of the funding could be determined at a later date.

Mr. Parker made a motion to make a recommendation from the RTP asking the city and the County to support the Afton Express including financial requirements. Ms. Galvin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Monthly Ridership Reporting Committee

Ms. Pennington reported that the committee has met in an initial meeting with all the sub-committees and they will be meeting regularly in the future. The information they gathered from the initial meeting is in the packet.

Transit Service Provider Updates

Mr. Sheffield reported that the Crozet Express is going well. He also reported that Transit Service Delivery Advisory Committee (TSDAC) met last week and he handed out a sheet with information from that meeting. He recommended that the RTP invite the DRPT, perhaps in March, to give the presentation on the capital needs assessment that was given at that meeting.

Mr. Williams gave a handout to the Board with the new ridership numbers. He said CAT is still working on getting Automatic Passenger Counters (APCs).

Mr. Sherman said DRPT closed bids on the intra-city bus service. There were three proposals submitted and the decision will be made approximately in March about who will be the provider.

Mr. Foley did not have anything to report.

Ms. White reported that the student academic session closed on December 18. The “employee routes” do not change during academic session. The “student routes,” the ones that run through the students’ neighborhoods, do change a bit. During school term, there is a 10-minute headway and during breaks, there is a 20-30 minute headway and no weekend service.

Other Business

Mr. Boyles reported that Virginia and CSX just announced a very large rail agreement that includes long-bridge funding. It includes doubling the number of Amtrak trains with hourly Richmond to DC service and preserving an existing freight corridor between Doswell & Clifton Forge for future east-west passenger service.

Mr. Pennington reported that Rideshare week occurred recently where commuters are asked to log their trips with extensive marketing for the program. She hopes to have an analysis of the data and geo-fencing in the near future.

Ms. McKeel thanked Ms. Galvin for her service to the Board.

January 23 is the next meeting scheduled.

Ms. McKeel adjourned the meeting at 5:18 p.m.

DRAFT