

## Thomas Jefferson Regional Transit Partnership

February 27, 2020

4:00 p.m.

Water Street Center

### Committee – Voting Members

Diantha McKeel, *Albemarle Co - Chair*  
Lloyd Snook, *City of Charlottesville*  
Lucas Ames, *JAUNT Urban*  
Randy Parker, *JAUNT Rural (Louisa)*  
Bea LaPisto-Kirtly, *Albemarle County*  
Nikuyah Walker, *City of Charlottesville(absent)*  
Neil Sherman, *DRPT*  
Becca White, *UTS*

### Staff

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

### Non-Voting & Alternates

Karen Davis, *JAUNT*  
Brad Sheffield, *JAUNT*  
Garland Williams, *CAT*  
Trevor Henry, *Albemarle County*  
James Mann, *CAT Advisory Board*  
Kim McManus, *PVCC (absent)*  
Jim Foley, *ACPC*  
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 4:01 p.m.

Ms. McKeel asked all in attendance to introduce themselves.

### Matters from the Public

Sean Tubbs from the Piedmont Environmental Council said he sees this body as crucial to helping people transition into using transit. He said there are numerous ways that the three transit agencies can continue to improve for seamless use for the community. He noted it is important that this body know what is happening with land use as well. When issues come up in the community, such as the one at Belvedere, it is important that this body work together to come up with solutions.

Peter Thompson, Executive Director of The Center, said 75 – 80% of the folks who have talked with him about the new center's location have asked whether or not it is on a bus line. He emphasized that it is extremely important to the community and to The Center at Belvedere.

There is talk of it NOT being on the bus route now and there is great concern. He looks forward to it being addressed.

Patrick Keyes is a community member who is an avid cyclist and expressed concern about the safety of cycling in the community. He has found that, many times, it is safer to break the law than to follow the law based on the interaction of cyclists and motor vehicles. He is interested in creating more conversation about increasing cycling infrastructure in and around the City for the safety of everyone involved.

### **Minutes from December 19, 2019**

Mr. Parker made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Walker seconded and the motion passed with Bea LaPisto-Kirtley abstaining.

### **Election of Vice Chair**

Mr. Parker nominated Lucas Ames to be Vice Chair. Mr. Ames accepted the nomination. Ms. Walker seconded the motion it passed unanimously.

### **RTP Orientation**

Mr. Boyles gave an overview of the RTP including when and why it was formed and how it functions.

### **Bylaws Revisions**

Mr. Boyles said the only change in the bylaws is that the University is now a voting member of the RTP.

Mr. Ames moved to approve the bylaws and Mr. Parker seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

### **CAT Advisory Bylaws**

Mr. Mann said the bylaws have been approved by the City attorney, so the bylaws are active. He also said he would like to have more 8 or 9 more people on the CAT Advisory Board from the City and the County.

Ms. LaPisto-Kirtly mentioned that she has noticed that there is a lack of bus shelters in the County and wondered what, if anything, could be done about it.

Mr. Williams said he was aware of the situation and that infrastructure was high on his list of things on which to turn his attention.

Ms. LaPisto-Kirtly said she knew of a developer who was willing to pay for them. Mr. Williams said he was aware of that situation and was in contact with Kevin McDermott about it.

Mr. Parker made a motion that the RTP, as an advisory board, are in support of the bylaws and recommends that they be adopted. Ms. White seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

### **Leadership Charlottesville 2020 project - Video Presentation of Transit Rider Surveys**

Leadership Charlottesville's project was presented to the board. Those videos are on YouTube, with a link through the MPO website.

### **Electric Scooter Data**

Amanda Poncy reported on the electric scooter data. She said the program has been live for about a year with about 250 e-scooters and 50 e-bikes. There is a high concentration of use around UVA.

### **VTA & RTP Listening Tour Responses**

Mr. Boyles said that this information had been shared in the past, but wanted to offer it as a reminder. There is a combined list with the Virginia Transit Association and another list that includes the responses from the RTP listening tour. The RTP tour did not have any businesses, so there will be a second tour that includes businesses in the future.

### **Review of DRPT Grant Applications**

Mr. Sherman reviewed the various grant applications with the board.

Ms. Hersh-Ballering reviewed the grant she is currently working on which requires matching funds from the community.

There was discussion about who would ultimately be responsible for those matching funds.

### **Transit Service Provider Updates**

Mr. Mann reiterated the need for additional CAT Advisory Board members.

Mr. Sheffield did not have anything to share.

Mr. Williams said ridership is still a concern and is working on getting the Automatic Passenger Counters (APCs) funding.

Ms. McKeel said she is interested in seeing data on the routes that have been pulled and information on ridership on her jurisdiction.

Mr. Williams said if the software is working, he could tell you where and when passengers get on, but he cannot tell when they get off. Once he has new software, he will have additional, more robust data.

Stephen Johnson, with JAUNT, noted that this data is available in raw form on Open Data online.

Ms. White said UVA is starting a 16-week pilot program with a van shuttle to serve some UVA properties that are now populated on Old Ivy Road.

Ms. White also said UVA has been working on vanpool incentives and looking at them a little more closely. Their first effort into that is in Scottsville with organizational meetings both on grounds and in Scottsville. She also reported that UVA is now subsidizing vanpools \$500 a month and distributing the cost of the vanpool cross the passengers.

Ms. White said she would send additional information about the Old Ivy Road shuttle and the Vanpool initiatives that could perhaps become part of the minutes.

Mr. Foley reported that ACPS is working with JAUNT to look at ways to partner on student transportation.

Mr. Foley said ACPS successfully petitioned the state to make school bus drivers listed as a critical shortage position.

Mr. Foley also reported that ACPS was not awarded an electric school bus from Dominion, but Louisa County and Waynesboro were.

Ms. Pennington said she submitted the application to DRPT for the Rideshare operating funds. She also reported that there have been good conversations between Rideshare and UVA about their employees. She also reported that she had successful meetings with NGIC and DIA to do carpooling and vanpooling. She also mentioned there is a new partnership with C3. Lastly, she mentioned that she is revamping the Clean Commute program, so be watching for updates on that soon.

Mr. Williams asked to add one more thing, he looked to see if Peter Thompson from The Center was still present, but he had gone.

Mr. Williams said, "Peter Thompson had asked about service to The Center, and I just wanted to make sure he knew we're working through the model to make sure there's going to be some service there. So what we're going to do temporarily, I'm going to ask to bring a resolution to City Council that will allow me to deviate the 11 to go about The Center. This is for about a 90-day period of time. Hopefully when we get the consultants in, we can get a long-term vision to provide a permanent solution to get service there. The concern that we have is it's only going to be one direction because, there's a concern about crossing four lanes of traffic in an uncivilized (?) intersection, and that's a recipe for disaster. We don't want to tempt that, so right now one direction is all we can do until we can figure out a potential, different, permanent route only using right turns to kind of connect The Center, maybe Barracks Road and a couple of other sections. There is a potential to do something like that long term, but it wouldn't be in place in time for their opening, which is the 18<sup>th</sup>. The service we are looking at is starting the deviation on the 11 starting on April the 11<sup>th</sup> with Council's blessings."

Ms. McKeel replied that Mr. Thompson said to her before the meeting that he had been corresponding with someone from CAT's office, but he had not heard back from CAT. Mr. Williams said he wasn't sure who he had contact. Ms. McKeel said she wasn't sure either, but said that he hadn't heard back, so she suggested that Mr. Williams get back with him.

Mr. Williams said he has gotten couple of emails from his organization.

Ms. McKeel said that maybe he just hadn't read them yet.

### **Other Business**

Ms. Pennington said she was trying to figure out a time to visit Blacksburg.

Ms. White said the City, County and UVA have a group called Climate Action Together that needs a transportation voice. The Climate Action Together would like to make a presentation to this group. Perhaps this could be added to an agenda in the future.

Ms. McKeel adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

DRAFT