

KANKAKEE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 25, 2011

IN ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members: Dorci Schoolman, Chairman, Options CIL; Laura Dick, SHOW BUS; Richard Campbell, Kankakee County Veteran's Assistance Commission; Mike Butler, Good Shepherd Manor; and Roger Hess, Kankakee County Board Member.

Others Present: Cheryl Lockwood, Northeast Illinois Area Agency on Aging; Richard Nolan, McLean County Regional Planning Commission; Jeanette Tetreault, Thresholds; Steve Mitchell, Kankakee County Training Center for the Disabled, Inc.; Amy Carmack, Good Shepherd Manor; Mike Lammey, Jim Greenstreet and Lindsey Harper, Kankakee County Planning Department.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Schoolman called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Mr. Roger Hess was introduced as the Kankakee County Board Member appointed to the Committee, replacing Mr. Scholl. Everyone around the room introduced themselves.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

There were no public comment forms filed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the September 7, 2010 meeting and the November 30, 2010 meeting were submitted for approval. A motion to approve both sets of minutes was made by Mr. Campbell and seconded by Ms. Dick. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION FROM KANKAKEE COUNTY TRAINING CENTER FOR THE DISABLED, INC. (KCTC):

Mr. Steve Mitchell, President and CEO for KCTC presented a description of the history and growth of KCTC and the transportation related activities. KCTC now serves about 450 clients with a staff of 200 people at four locations. They also operate 11 CILA Homes with 5 to 8 residents each. They have a budget of \$8,000,000 and operate as a Not-For Profit.

KCTC operates 31 vehicles, including fork-lifts, pick-up trucks, cars, semi-tractors and trailers, vans and busses. The busses will have two additional staff members to assist with medical or behavioral needs that may arise. KCTC transports approximately 300 people to and from their facilities daily. Others are brought to their sites by families and friends, SHOW BUS and River Valley METRO buses. Transportation costs including fuel, maintenance, insurance and labor account for approximately 4% of the total budget.

Mr. Mitchell distributed brochures highlighting KCTC. KCTC will be having a fund raising event on March 5, 2011 at Olivet Nazarene University's Kresgee Auditorium featuring Rich Little presenting the life of actor Jimmy Stewart.

Discussion followed the presentation including the possibility of KCTC being eligible to apply for grants for busses through IDOT 5310 programs.

HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN (HSTP) ISSUES:

- a. In the absence of Ms. Brutlag and Mr. Hoffmann, Mr. Lammey reported that the METRO Board meets this afternoon and that their draft Urban HSTP Plan and the Citizen's Advisory Committee appointments are both on the Agenda. We have no information as to who will be on the Committee.

AGENCY TRANSPORTATION NEEDS, INTERAGENCY COORDINATION, AND ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES:

- a. Accessibility Issues: Chairman Schoolman reported that there is some progress on improvements on accessibility at bus stops. Ms. Lockwood advised there are 10 bus shelters ordered that will be lighted and will have advertising in them, to be used to improve bus stops in the METRO service area. METRO is still working on a report on accessibility of all of its' bus stop locations.
- b. State Budget Issues: Ms Dick reported the State is still behind in making payments (about 7 months). A facility in Champaign has stopped providing bus service for its' clients in Ford and Iroquois Counties and SHOW BUS is providing that service for them. SHOW BUS had applied for funding for a Voucher Program in other counties and has received approval. This may be a useful tool in Kankakee County in the future, as well.

DISABILITY/AGING/TRANSPORTATION ISSUES:

- a. Social Service provider comments:
- b. Medical Service provider comments: no attendee.
- c. Government Agency comments: Mr. Campbell reported that the VA has provided a van service from the Manteno Veteran's Clinic to Hines VA Hospital on weekdays. It is limited to 10 passengers and cannot transport wheelchair patients or patients with oxygen. Reservations are required. The van leaves the Manteno VA Clinic at 7:30 AM and leaves Hines to return at 1:30 PM. Discussion followed concerning the fact the vehicle is not handicap accessible and thus fails to completely fill the needs.

Mr. Campbell reported that his office had received an Illinois Lottery Scratch-off Grant with which he has provided 59 veterans with \$97,000 worth of dental care, 10 with eyeglasses and 4 with hearing aids. He is applying for another \$50,000 in Illinois Lottery Scratch-off Grants.

Mr. Campbell stated the progress on relocating the VA clinic to a larger location in Kankakee has been delayed. A 5-year program with a goal of Zero homeless veterans is in its' second year but funds have not yet been released to implement the program.

PROGRAM STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS:

- a. Ms. Dick reported that Kankakee County is still waiting on a signed contract from IDOT for the JARC Grant, seven months into the grant time-line. The money cannot be spent and reimbursed until the signed contract is in hand.
- b. Mr. Lammey reported there is about a 21% increase in ridership on the METRO system over the prior year.

QUESTIONS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA:

No media present.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

County Transportation Committee – March 29, 2011 @ 9:30 AM – METRO CENTRE
Region 6 HSTP Meeting – April 11, 2011 @ 10:00 AM – LifeCIL in Pontiac, IL
County Transportation Committee – May 31, 2011 @ 9:30 AM – METRO CENTRE
Region 6 HSTP Meeting – June 13, 2011 @ 10:00 AM – LifeCIL in Pontiac, IL

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Butler and seconded by Mr. Hess. Motion carried.
Chairman Schoolman adjourned the meeting at 10:40AM.