

# Kankakee County Transportation Committee Minutes

January 29, 2013

Members in attendance: Roger Hess, Kankakee County Board Member; Laura Dick, SHOW BUS; Cheryl Lockwood, Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging; and Bonnie Schaafsma, Kankakee County Health Department.

Others in attendance: Richard Nolan, McLean County Regional Planning Commission and Co-coordinator Region 6 HSTP; Michelle Brutlag, River Valley METRO Mass Transit District; Pat McCarthy, Illinois Central School Bus; Cheryl Chamberlain and Linea Borggren, KC-CASA (Kankakee County Center Against Sexual Assault); Mike Lammey and Jim Greenstreet, Kankakee County Planning Department.

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Hess, serving as acting chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM, and welcomed everyone. Mr. Hess asked everyone to identify themselves and who they represented.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the November 27, 2012 meeting were submitted for approval. Ms. Lockwood requested a correction on the bottom paragraph on page 3 for the word “He” to be corrected to “She”, and made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Ms. Schaafsma. Motion carried.

## **STATUS OF GRANT APPLICATIONS**

Mr. Lammey stated there has still been no official announcement for awards at this time. Mr. Lammey had sent a letter to IDOT to complain about the slowness of their processing grant applications from last April for programs that should have been under contract for July 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Nolan stated there will be a conference call on January 30<sup>th</sup> with the Regional HSTP Coordinators. He will pass on any news they receive from that meeting, assuring the problem of the delay will be discussed.

## **PRESENTATION BY KC-CASA**

Ms. Chamberlain gave an overview of the programs and services provided by KC-CASA, and provided several hand-outs describing their services. They have a 24-Hour Crisis Line, provide counseling, medical and legal advocacy, community education on sexual violence awareness and professional training for police, court personnel, medical

providers, teachers, counselors, social workers, nurses and others. She described the Illinois Imagines program, which deals with women with disabilities who are victims of sexual violence and changes in the law to provide for needed medical treatment and evidence collection and use. KC-CASA and the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault had been supportive in the passing of “Erin’s Law”, which now requires a curriculum of sexual abuse prevention be taught in Illinois public schools from pre-kindergarten through fifth grade.

Ms. Chamberlain stated they are currently interviewing a new director for their program. They have a huge volunteer program of trained people to help, as funding shortages are problematic. They will be having a fund raising drive in March.

### **AGENCY TRANSPORTATION NEEDS, INTERAGENCY COORDINATION, AND ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES**

Ms. Dick reported that on paper it sounds good, the State is saying it will have resolution to late funding by the end of the month. In reality, with only two days left in the month, there is no expectation of it happening.

### **DISABILITY/AGING/TRANSPORTATION ISSUES**

Ms. Schaafsma reported Ms. Lockwood had invited her to meet with a seniors group. There is a need for serving the home-bound population. Ms. Lockwood explained that there is a need for clients under the managed care plan to have an assistant with them at all times when transported. There is a need still for transporting clients to medical visits at less than ambulance cost. Ms. Dick reported that the voucher program as discussed in prior meetings is still waiting funding, and the contract is supposed to be on the way for the low-rider stretcher capable vehicle for medically stable clients. Ms. Schaafsma stated there is a continuing need to get the word out to the public as to what transportation resources are available to them. The Community Health Assessment committee will be meeting Thursday, January 31, 2013 and this topic will come up there.

Ms. Lockwood announced the Kankakee County Legislative Forum on Senior / Disability Issues will be held on Monday, March 18, 2013 from 9:30 AM to 12:00 Noon. It will be held in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Auditorium of the Kankakee Public Library. She will send a flyer out to this committee.

Ms. Lockwood stated that all grantees she deals with are also receiving late payments, some with September, 2012 payments overdue from the State. Even programs that had traditionally been paid to agencies in advance are now months delayed in payment.

### **PROGRAM STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS**

Ms. Dick stated that ridership on Show Bus is continuing to climb. At the same time, long-term grantee providers are cancelling funding assistance for bus service.

## **QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA**

No media present.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **MEETING SCHEDULE**

April 22, 2013 at 10:00 AM (Region 6 HSTP meeting) at the historic Courthouse in Pontiac, IL, and March 26, 2013 at 9:30 AM (County Transportation Committee) at METRO Centre

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Lockwood and seconded by Ms. Schaafsma. Motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.