

KANKAKEE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

July 26, 2011

IN ATTENDANCE

Committee Members: Dorci Schoolman, Chairman, Options CIL; Mike Butler, Vice-Chairman, Good Shepherd Manor; Laura Dick, SHOW BUS; Roger Hess, Kankakee County Board Member; Richard Campbell, Kankakee County Veteran's Assistance Commission; Bonnie Schaafsma, Kankakee County Health Department; and Michelle Brutlag, River Valley METRO Mass Transit District.

Others Present: Richard Nolan, McLean County Regional Planning Commission; Steve Mitchell, Kankakee County Training Center for the Disabled, Inc.; Carol McIntyre, Heritage Village; Carrie Shearer, Provena Care @ Home; Leslie Phemister, South Suburban County Coordinator, Active Transportation Alliance; Mike Lammey, Lindsey Harper, Ashley Potempa and Jim Greenstreet, Kankakee County Planning Department.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Schoolman called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no Public Comment.

PRESENTATION FROM PROVENA

Carol McIntyre, Administrator of Provena Heritage Village and Carrie Shearer, Director of the Provena Care @ Home program gave a power point presentation describing their facilities, services in their facilities and at client homes, and transportation activities. Provena Life Connections operates 21 ministries in 3 states with 9 areas of service in different locations. These services include home health care, private duty/home care, Hospice, nursing homes, independent living, assisted living, supportive living, day care centers and pharmacy.

Locally, Provena Health operates the Provena St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee, physician's offices throughout the county, outpatient dialysis centers, and rehabilitation clinics including cardiac rehabilitation, respiratory and wound clinics. The Provena Our Lady of Victory in Bourbonnais is a 107 bed facility offering short term rehab, skilled and intermediate care and respite care. Provena Heritage Village in Kankakee is a 113 bed community offering short term rehab, skilled care and shelter care, respite care, assisted living, independent living and intergenerational services to include and adult day center

Medical visit transportation for their residential clients and day clients is provided, as well as transportation for clients daily from the far corners of the county to the Kankakee area for daytime activities. They currently utilize 4 busses, one of which will need to be replaced soon. They also utilize vouchers through SHOW BUS and through local taxi-

cab services. The Committee suggested Carol and Carrie meet with Ms. Dick from SHOW BUS and Ms. Brutlag from METRO to discuss additional options for their clients.

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman Schoolman and Mr. Lammey presented the need to elect new Committee Members. The four categories of membership (Social Service Agencies, Medical Providers, Government entities and Transportation Providers) were dispersed to separate corners of the room to decide whom to nominate for the committee positions.

Chairman Schoolman opened the floor for nomination and election of Committee Members, starting with Social Service Agencies: Nominated were Mike Butler and Steve Mitchell. Motion to approve by Mr. Butler, seconded by Ms. Brutlag. Motion passed.

Chairman Schoolman opened the floor for nomination and election of Committee Members from Medical Service Providers: Nominated was Bonnie Schaafsma. Motion to approve by Ms. Brutlag, seconded by Mr. Butler. Motion passed.

Chairman Schoolman opened the floor for nomination and election of Committee Members from Government entities: Nominated was Roger Hess and Richard Campbell. Motion to approve by Mr. Butler, seconded by Ms. Brutlag. Motion passed.

Chairman Schoolman opened the floor for nomination and election of Committee Members from Transportation Providers: Nominated was Laura Dick and Michelle Brutlag. Motion to approve by Mr. Hess, seconded by Mr. Butler. Motion passed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman Schoolman opened the floor for nomination of a new Committee Chairman. Mike Butler was nominated by Mr. Hess, seconded by Ms. Brutlag. Mr. Campbell made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Ms. Schaafsma. Motion passed, election of Mr. Butler passed.

Chairman Schoolman opened the floor for nomination of a new Committee Vice-Chairman. Roger Hess was nominated by Ms. Brutlag, seconded by Mr. Butler. No further nominations were heard. Mr. Hess was elected Vice-Chairman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the May 31, 2011 meeting were submitted for approval. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Ms. Schaafsma. Motion carried.

AGENCY TRANSPORTATION NEEDS, INTERAGENCY COORDINATION, AND ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES

a. Accessibility Issues:

Ms. Brutlag reported METRO is in the process of analyzing 389 bus stops for accessibility, mapping the sites on GIS and photographing the sites. They will assess the needs and prioritize the sites for improvements. The analysis will also be useful in documenting the needs in future grant applications.

Ms. Schaafsma asked Ms. Brutlag to find out why METRO busses are not driving under the overhead canopy at the main entrance to the Health Department. When the building was renovated and the canopy was put into place, it was built high enough specifically for busses to drop clients off nearer to the door, but the busses are pulling up just beyond the canopy. Ms. Brutlag will check on this and report back to Ms. Schaafsma.

Ms. Brutlag reported the Veteran's Assistance Commission will be holding their meeting at the METRO Centre at 6:00 pm tonight and Mr. Hoffmann will be meeting with them to discuss the issues concerning the location of the bus stops near the new VA Clinic to be opened in Bourbonnais. Ms. Brutlag will provide Train-The Trainer (TTT) training for the VA staff, so they can appropriately train their clients how to access the services from METRO, including the fixed route service and METRO Plus service if needed. They will also do TTT training for Options CIL staff and have done so for other organizations. METRO has provided training for special ed student groups and assisted them in using the bus service for field trips in town.

- b. State Budget Issues: Ms. Dick reported statewide transportation has been lucky with the new budget. Some social service agencies have had their funding cut, causing them to abandon providing transportation services to their clients. Public transportation services are trying to provide the services now missing for these clients.

Ms. Dick stated the new Integrated Managed Care program has Kankakee County identified as an initial roll-out county for implementation. This will have a coordinated port of entry for clients to access the various services. Client needs centering around curb-to-curb, door-to-door or door-through-door are being considered. Reimbursement to entrepreneurial transportation providers will likely have their reimbursement funding be decreased, which may cause them to discontinue their services, pushing more clients to public transportation. Public transportation fleets may not be large enough to handle the expected increase in riders. Ms. Schoolman stated that Option CIL is designated to sign up clients under this program. Mr. Mitchell stated KCTC's clients are in the phase III of the roll-out of this program and thus not yet affected. Medical needs clients are in the Phase I of the program.

- c. No other issues presented.

PROGRAM STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

- a. River Valley METRO: Ms. Brutlag reported the Manteno route has expanded into the Diversatech campus and is picking up riders at the Heritage Woods nursing home.
- b. SHOW BUS: Ms. Dick reported the JARC early bus service to Momence now has three riders per day. She is interested in coordination with the needs of the Provena Day Care clients in the area she serves.

QUESTIONS FROM THE NEWS MEDIA

No media present.

NEW BUSINESS

The Illinois Public Transit Association Annual Conference will be in Galena, IL September 8 & 9, 2011.

Mr. Campbell announced the VAC meeting tonight at METRO Centre at 6:00 pm to discuss bus service to the new VA Clinic in Bourbonnais. He also stated Ms. Dick from SHOW BUS is working with the VA to help with scheduling reservations for the VA bus to Hines which will be departing from the new VA Clinic once it opens. The vehicle has a very limited capacity, and now will accommodate two wheelchairs. The Clinic is scheduled to open about October 1st, 2011.

Mr. Nolan announced Mr. Dan Duffy has recently been appointed Village Administrator at the Village of Manteno and has a long background in transit.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Region 6 HSTP Meeting – August 15, 2011 @ 10:00 AM –in Pontiac, IL
County Transportation Committee – September 27, 2011 @ 9:30 AM – METRO
CENTRE

Region 6 HSTP Meeting – October 17, 2011 @ 10:00 AM in Pontiac, IL
County Transportation Committee – November 29, 2011 @ 9:30 AM - METRO
CENTRE

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Hess, seconded by Ms. Brutlag. Motion carried.
Chairman Schoolman adjourned the meeting at 11:25 AM.