

Kankakee County Transportation Committee

Minutes

March 31, 2015

Members in attendance: Mike Butler, Good Shepherd Manor; Roger Hess, Kankakee County Board Member; Laura Dick, SHOW BUS; Cheryl Lockwood, Northeastern Illinois Area Agency on Aging; Bonnie Schaafsma, Kankakee County Health Department; Michelle Brutlag, River Valley METRO Mass Transit District; Michael Roof, Veteran's Assistance Commission;

Others in attendance: Ken Munjoy, and Rob Hoffmann, River Valley METRO Mass Transit District; Mike Hasler, Options CIL; Rick Nolan, HSTP Region 6; , Michelle Allen, Cornerstone Services, Inc.; Mike Lammey, Geoff Olson, and Jim Greenstreet, Kankakee County Planning Department.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Butler called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM and welcomed everyone. Each person in the meeting introduced themselves and which agency they represented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the November 18, 2014 meeting were submitted for approval. Mr. Hess made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dick. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION ON SUCCESSFUL CONSOLIDATED VEHICLE PROGRAM (CVP) APPLICATIONS

Mr. Nolan informed everyone that Kankakee County has been awarded a medium duty bus. Good Shepherd Manor also received a light duty bus and 2 minivans. SHOW BUS was also awarded a vehicle for use in Kankakee County. Between April and September 2014 there were approximately 230 buses delivered in Illinois, and the same amount is expected for the same timeframe in 2015.

PRESENTATION ON URBAN HSTP COMMITTEE

Mr. Lammey listed the approved members of the Urban HSTP Committee:

Michael Van Mill from Kankakee County, John Edmondson from IDOT, Jennifer Cappellano from OPTIONS, Mike Roof from the VAC, Kevin Hack from Riverside, Carole Franke from the METRO Board, and Ken Munjoy from the METRO staff.

URBAN HSTP PLANNING

Mr. Olson gave a presentation explaining the differences in procedure for urban and rural vehicle procurement applications. He explained that urban trips are entirely inside the urbanized area and rural trips have at least one end in the rural area. He addressed each of the member agencies that have clients with transportation needs and which committee each agency would have to participate with for vehicle procurement applications. Mr. Olson also informed everyone that the staff at the Kankakee County Planning Dept. would be willing to provide assistance with CVP applications.

FY 2015 CONSOLIDATED VEHICLE PROGRAM (CVP)

Mr. Lammey referred to the memo sent out to committee members that there was a CVP informational meeting on March 27, 2015 in Chicago and there will be another one on April 16, 2015 in Springfield. If anyone was interested in attending who hadn't already signed up, they should contact Mike Healy at IDOT for further information. Chairman Butler also said that Amy Carmack at Good Shepherd Manor was willing to answer any questions about the CVP applications. Mr. Nolan also offered assistance and advised to include as much documentation as possible with the application to rank higher in IDOT's decision making process. The application deadline is May 31, 2015.

HSTP COORDINATOR ISSUES

Mr. Nolan said they are in the process of updating the Region 6 HSTP Plan Document. It will be discussed at the April 13, 2015 Region 6 HSTP Meeting in Pontiac.

AGENCY TRANSPORTATION NEEDS, INTERAGENCY COORDINATION AND ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES

Ms. Brutlag said METRO has its plans in place and is waiting for approval and funding from IDOT to proceed with getting bids to upgrade existing bus stops to have ADA standard accessibility. Mr. Hoffmann explained that Mr. Munjoy was appointed the Urban HSTP Committee representative and that there would be an Urban HSTP Committee meeting on Wednesday April 8, 2015 at 10:30 AM. He also explained that hopefully by the end of next fiscal year, METRO will have 100% ADA accessibility at its bus stops. Mr. Munjoy said he was informed by Mike Healy at IDOT that the light and medium duty buses are under contract for production and will be available sooner than mini-vans and super duty buses, that are not under contract. Mr. Hoffmann stated that Medicaid had in the past approached Metro to sign up to do transportation under Medicaid guidelines. He recommended to them that they simply purchase a \$40.00 monthly pass for their clients to use on the regular fixed route or Metro Plus service routes. This seemed to work well in the state of Washington where it was implemented by the state legislature.

Ms. Dick reported that SHOW BUS has been receiving rider referrals that appeared to be made on behalf of the riders without the riders' knowledge.

DISABILITY/AGING/TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Mr. Roof had no updates except that he would be attending the April 16 CVP meeting. Ms. Lockwood did not have any updates. Mr. Hess explained that the CTC reported back to the Planning, Zoning, and Agriculture Committee, which he is no longer serving on. So it is possible that the County may appoint a different representative in his place.

Mr. Butler said Good Shepherd Manor has lost one bus and is hoping the replacement bus they are expecting will be arriving soon.

PROGRAM STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

Ms. Brutlag told everyone that METRO has a new ADA software that has resulted in fewer trip denials and an increase in service. Mr. Hoffmann said they were receiving anecdotal evidence that riders weren't being served as they expected. It turned out that the software was dropping service requests. The new software has solved that problem. Mr. Hoffmann also explained the Mومence service route would be discontinued due to its low ridership. They expect to add additional service to the Metro Plus service at peak times starting July 1st.

Ms. Dick said the changes in Medicaid were a little startling. Also that the current State budget has made future service unclear.

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA

None

NEW BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING

There will be a Region 6 HSTP meeting on April 13, 2015 at 10:00 AM in Pontiac. On June 30, 2015 at 9:30 AM the next County Transportation Committee meeting will be held. There may be additional meetings called for because of the May 31, 2015 deadline for CVP applications.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hess motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Dick. The meeting was adjourned at 10:43 AM.