

Kankakee County Transportation Committee

Minutes

May 5, 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; Ken Munjoy, River Valley METRO Mass Transit District; Michael Roof, Veteran's Assistance Commission

Others in attendance: Mike Lammey and Geoff Olson, Kankakee County Planning Department; Heather Long, Options CIL; Amy Carmack, Good Shepherd Manor

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 March 31, 2015 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 5310 APPLICATIONS

Mr. Roof presented the details on his CVP applications submission for the Veteran's Assistance Commission. He explained that he was looking to replace the current vehicle used by the VAC which was manufactured in 2004 and was purchased for \$8,500 used. He said although the bus has only 45,000 miles on it, it sat for many years unused on the dealer lot and things like rust have taken effect.

Mr. Roof is applying for one light duty bus to continue the transportation service of the Kankakee County VAC. The bus leaves the Kankakee Train Depot at 7:15 A.M. for Hines Veteran's Hospital and returns after the last rider's appointment is completed. The service is available for veterans who are elderly, have a disability, or qualify as low income.

Ms. Dick presented the 5310 applications for SHOW BUS. She explained that because SHOW BUS is the operator for Kankakee County and already has a contract that with IDOT, the CVP

application is shorter because many of the agreements are already in place. SHOW BUS is applying for 1 medium duty bus to retire a light duty bus that has over 195,000 miles on it and is still operable.

Ms. Carmack presented the CVP application for Good Shepherd Manor. They are applying for 2 medium duty buses that replace 12 passenger vans. The medium duty buses will provide better accessibility for the residents and can hold up to 14 passengers.

Ms. Carmack also informed everyone that the size of the medium duty bus does not require the driver to have a CDL. She also said the appendices for the CVP application can be submitted after the application, up until June 30. She stated that the State may be changing the CVP awards by requiring each agency to provide 20 percent of the vehicle cost, instead of the State which has always paid that amount in the past. FTA pays the other 80 percent.

ENDORSEMENT OF 5310 APPLICATIONS

Mr. Hess made a motion to endorse the pending CVP applications and that they be forwarded to the Region 6 HSTP Committee. Ms. Lockwood seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HSTP COORDINATOR ISSUES

Mr. Nolan was unable to attend the meeting, but sent an e-mail to Kankakee County staff to provide an update for the committee. Mr. Olson explained the e-mail to the committee. Mr. Nolan asked that in addition to the CVP applications being e-mailed to Mike Healy at IDOT, that they also be e-mailed to Jennifer Sicks at McLean County. The applications must be received by IDOT no later than 11:59 P.M. on May 31, 2015. Any supporting application information can be sent to IDOT up until June 30.

AGENCY TRANSPORTATION NEEDS, INTERAGENCY COORDINATION AND ACCESSIBILITY ISSUES

Mr. Munjoy said METRO is still having contract issues with IDOT and is still waiting for final approval. He commented that this year's construction season is well underway and the bus stop improvements may have to continue into next year.

Ms. Dick said she is still waiting for the State's budget to be approved. She said there has also been some movement on the Downstate Transportation Improvement Fund. The DTIF allows for vehicle expansion in comparison to the 5310 program, which typically provides replacement vehicles.

DISABILITY/AGING/TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Ms. Lockwood said they were still unsure of the State's proposed budget. In early April the State cut \$26 million from human services. Recently the State has begun to reallocate that money back to human services making its finding situation complicated and unclear. Mr. Butler

said Good Shepherd Manor accepted delivery of a new light duty bus last week. Ms. Schaafsma had nothing new to report. Mr. Hess commented that the County's budget is in dire straits.

PROGRAM STATUS OF TRANSPORTATION PROVIDERS

Ms. Dick said SHOW BUS has no intention to cut service due to possible budget cuts by the State because ridership is currently increasing. She told everyone she attended the IDOT Listening Session in McLean County where Andrew Johnson from Connect Transit and she explained to the IDOT the importance of operating costs in addition to their requested capital improvement projects.

Mr. Munjoy said he has been in some meetings with Acting Secretary of Transportation Blankenhorn who he said seems genuine about improving public transportation. He also said that METRO's ridership is continually increasing each year and is nearly reaching 1,000,000 rides per year.

Mr. Lammey asked about ADA service changes at METRO. Mr. Munjoy explained that METRO Plus ridership is increasing. They have a new ADA scheduling software which they are hoping will help increase ADA ridership further.

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEDIA

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Munjoy reminded everyone at the committee that METRO will be hosting the Kankakee IDOT Listening Session on May 21. Seating will be limited so please RSVP to ensure attendance at the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

There will be a Region 6 HSTP meeting on May 18, 2015 at 10:00 AM in Pontiac. On June 30, 2015 at 9:30 AM the next County Transportation Committee meeting will be held.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hess motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Lockwood. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 AM.