

Minutes of the Southeast Vermont Transit Board of Directors
January 13, 2021
Via Video

President Chip Stearns called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were as follows:

Board Members: Chip Stearns, Scott Tucker, Joel Bluming, Seth Boyd, Wendy Harrison, Randy Capitani, Matt Mann, and Dave Moulton joined as a potential board member.

Members of the Public: None

Staff Present: Randy Schoonmaker, Christine Howe, and Keith Johnson

Public Input: None

New Board Member: Dave Moulton introduced himself. **Motion 1: Nomination from Randy C to have Dave M fill the open position from Jamie Storrs, second from Seth B, Passed 7-0**

Review of Minutes: Review of December minutes.

Amend Agenda: None

Executive Session: None

Old Business:

Coronavirus Update: No update this meeting.

Ridership: Wilmington will show the most ridership losses as the winter moves forward due to lack of winter service this year. It is graphed by week, and we are also showing a previous year without COVID. This was the worst Christmas week in 25 years in Wilmington. Rockingham ridership is below but only about 38% off, except the Okemo route being 73% off. The Demand Response and Volunteer routes will start to increase in February when we go back to Medicaid. This will be a difficult year with ridership comparison. Total SEVT we are down 58% from where we were a year ago. Discussion ensued regarding the state performance report.

Financial Overview: The executive summary was reviewed. Our LOC has a zero balance with Okemo and Mount Snow forwarding the purchase orders for their payments. We also received our quarterly payments from the State. Our cash is solid right now. Randy presented a cash graph to show the ebb and flow of cash. Tim pointed out the additional 100% funding in some grants from federal support. More federal money will be available for SFY22. This money will expand to Administrative and Preventative Maintenance at 100% in SFY22. This will be used for existing service and trying to stay fare free.

Partner Updates: Randy thanked the partners for their 2021 contracts and all their help.

Mount Snow: None

Stratton: None

Okemo: None

Fundraising: None

Re-Branding: We sent out our first brown spotted bus here in Wilmington, then one will be done for Brattleboro, and Rockingham. People have received it well. Before the next board meeting Randy will send a link of the new web site that will also link to one Facebook page as we move forward. Discussion about the sponsorships on the buses ensued.

NEMT: Randy updated the board on the operation pieces that are happening. We have people coming in to move furniture, phone system installed, Routematch, vehicles being purchased, spotted and getting ready. Christine and Heather are very busy. Scott asked about opioid treatment rides. It was explained those are Medicaid and will be back with us in February and March. Tim explained that the adult days are currently closed and there is not a timeline to when they will open. There was discussion surrounding Medicaid.

Rockingham Addition: Randy showed and explained pictures of the addition. We are well beyond the original completion date of October 31 and are pushing the end of the month of January. The earmark will finally be exhausted, hopefully before the next fiscal year.

Route 30 Study: Tim is aware that he has to contact Randy and SEVT to work on a scope for the Route 30 study but has not as of yet. Joel said it is ongoing.

New Business: None Annual meeting date being proposed for March 10, 2021. **Motion 2: Scott motioned to have annual meeting March 10, 2021; Dave seconded, starts at 5 pm video conference only. Motion passed 8-0.** The annual meeting is for committee and term appointments, as well an annual report. The Nominating Committee can come up with potential board members if the current members that are carrying are not interested in continuing. Chip and Joel would like to continue, Scott will stay on until a worthy replacement is found. The regular board meeting will follow the Annual Meeting.

Executive Session: None

Company Updates: Keith explained we have had good candidates for the new positions and thinks the benefit package has helped that. Christine said lots of moving parts but all good.

Board Member Comments: Dave warned of a busy weekend. Seth asked how the drivers were doing and if there is anything they can do as a board to support further. Dave explained that the protocols really do work. Christine thanked the board and explained that there was some anxiety from some drivers, but we moved them around and all in all everyone was great, both riders and drivers. Matt asked about the air purifiers into the buses, and Randy and Tim explained that there is a hold on the air purifier for buses. Tim explained that the bus installed air purifiers are not proven and the FTA has not approved it with the cost and lack of proven effectiveness.

Future Agenda Items: Randy updated the Strategic Plan, and that should be reviewed by the board at some future meeting. Chip offered to sideline some old business list to add the strategic plan to review in some detail. Wendy would add this after the NEMT update on the list. Partner updates, fundraising, rebranding can be touched on briefly but may be a quick one or two sentence discussion to make room for strategic plan. Randy explained where to look for the Strategic Plan on Directorpoint.

Adjourn: Motion 3: Joel moved to adjourn; meeting adjourned at 6:28 PM.