

President Chip Stearns called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were as follows:

Board Members: Chip Stearns, Jonathan Meeks, Travis Wendell, Marco Tallini, Joel Blumming, Wendy Harrison, and Matt Mann.

Invited Guest: Tim Bradshaw, VTrans

Members of the Public: Wayne Estey

Staff Present: Leona Linney, Randy Schoonmaker Rebecca Gagnon and Christine Fayette

Public Input: Wayne Estey a resident of Brattleboro and property owner in Dover who is a candidate for state representative, wanted to express his support for public transportation services. He also wanted the board to keep in mind that many more public housing facilities will be springing up as our population ages and that transportation is vital to their quality of life.

Amend Agenda: Randy asked that we add to the agenda Brattleboro AVL, E&D update, SEVT board attendance at a Brattleboro Select Board meeting, new board member, and go into executive session to discuss a legal matter. Chip suggested all items go under new business after the strategic plan except for executive session. A motion was not made.

Review minutes: Chip asked if everyone had a chance to read the minutes. Wendy requested to address the minutes as she was not at the meeting. She feels the comments regarding board members asking for favors was directed at her and she doesn't believe she has ever asked for favors but has advocated for affordable housing projects. She feels that all affordable housing projects should have service and did work for Windham Windsor Housing Trust but said it's not a conflict of interest. She believes we can improve conversations, but she wanted clarifications about board members not being allowed to talk to staff. Chip explained that any conversation with staff from a board member about a board member's business can cause a conflict of interest. Wendy feels when she sees something that it would be best to inform staff rather than bring it up at the meeting, but she is more than willing to do that, she's also trying to be more sensitive about the board members' time. Chip explained that if she would like to speak to staff that she should direct her comments to Randy or Chip who can then distribute them to the GM's. Wendy stated she and Randy have had many conversations that have resolved issue or concerns. Randy stated conversations are fine, but they cannot lead to a directive. Directives need to come from the entire board. Wendy agreed.

Wendy had a concern about the board making a decision not to look at minutes anymore. Her concern is that comments are being put in the minutes that were never said or voted on, she gave these examples; "We are not in the shelter business anymore" and "We'll never go into the Medicaid business anymore" she doesn't recall the board ever discussing that. She feels that the minutes should be reviewed and commented on. Randy explained that the minutes can be reviewed and discussed but do not need to be voted on. There was no vote on the minutes.

Old Business:

Elect a new Treasurer: Marco would like to stay on as Treasurer but cannot attend Finance Committee meetings. The extra committee work is difficult to manage, and he could not dedicate the time it needs. Joel Blumming has been to all the Finance Committee meetings and would like to continue as a committee member. Both Wendy and Chip have extensive finance backgrounds and are on the committee. **Motion 1:** Jon motioned that Joel be appointed to the Finance Committee and that Marco continue as Treasurer. Motion passed 7-0.

Ridership: Randy presented the end of year ridership. The ridership for the Current is up 5% on the fixed routes and the demand response is down 6% and the volunteer riders are up 62%, due to the Medicaid transition. Overall the Current is up 7% at year end. The MOOver year-round routes are up 14% and the winter routes are up 4%. Winter didn't pick up until March and April. The demand response routes are down, rides are going to volunteers. The MOOver missed an all-time record by just 150 rides. Overall the company is up 7% and delivered 448,000+ rides.

Finance Summary Report: The board reviewed the written executive summary. Randy indicated that the total loss for the company was \$50,722. This is down from last year considerably (\$242,152) and down from our projected loss of \$100,000 in January after getting out of Medicaid.

Approve FY19 SEVT Budget: Randy explained the budget and adjustments after the Finance Committee met the week prior and pointed out that the bottom line the same and that only line items have been adjusted. Randy reviewed with the Board each division's budget and total company budget. Budgeted after Capital of \$25,178 is a surplus of \$48,406. Randy stated that this is the budget the Finance Committee approved and would like the Board's vote.

Motion 2: Joel motioned to approve the FY19 budget as presented, Marco seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

Brattleboro update: Randy stated that the public input phase ends August 3rd. To date we have roughly 35 non-rider surveys and about the same from riders. Most of them are on line and the majority are very positive. Non-riders are less positive. All rider surveys that were less positive have been taken care of and the schedule adjusted to support their needs. We will have two public meetings on the 23rd, and meeting with the Brattleboro Select Board on August 21st. Surveys are on line, on busses, and in local public places. Randy reviewed the new routes. Wendy said she would like to see the comments from the surveys and needed to add that she thinks the schedule is so much better than what it was, and she thought the new loop to Winston Prouty and the Park is great! The kids can utilize it in the summer and it's also a meal site in the summer. She thinks we stop too early and would like to see us run a little later on certain routes, when funding permits. Joel is encouraging people on line to attend the public hearing for input. Chip reminded the Board members that if they attend the public hearing or Select Board meeting that four members is a quorum and constitutes a meeting which we would have to warn it. Randy stated after the board meeting in August we will be ready to distribute the schedules in September and start the service October 8th.

Strategic Plan Update: Randy reviewed the plan and the progress of our long term and short-term goals. Most of the goals have been accomplished and we are working on the few not completed.

Brattleboro AVL: The Swiftly AVL program will start soon in Brattleboro. There are three buses that now have transponders and one spare bus. We are in the testing phase, and once the program is up and running you will be able to access the program on your phone to track the bus and see when the next bus will be at your stop. This will be a great tool for dispatchers as well. They will be able to view the interactive map and tell riders who are without access exactly when the next bus will arrive.

E&D Update: Tim indicated we are still looking for ways to control the E&D cost now that we have no Medicaid to help share cost. We are looking to share rides with all providers to hopefully cut down on cost. Tim said the group met today to see if we can combine rides and schedule them together to share cost. Tim said we will meet later to create a cost analysis benefit based on ride sharing. The Adult Days have been proactive about finding ways to streamline the service and create shared rides. Tim indicated that the two transit providers who have taken on the Medicaid in this area are now struggling much like SEVT did.

New Board Member: Eithne has resigned because she can no longer dedicate the time needed. She served eight years on the Board and says a very fond good bye to everyone. The members of the Nominating Committee will get together to discuss replacement options.

New Business: None

Executive Session: Motion 3 Marco motioned to go into executive session at 7:17 pm to discuss a legal matter, and invited staff and guest, Tim elected to sign off, Wendy seconded the motion. Motion approved 7-0. The board came out of executive session at 7:24 pm.

Company Updates: None

Board Member Comments: Matt asked why there was no food for the meeting tonight, Randy reminded him that the Board voted to discontinue serving food.

Future Agenda Items: The Transit Development Plan from Tim will be on the next agenda. Wendy would like to see a discussion regarding a board retreat to update the strategic plan and set goals. Chip thought we could do that during future regularly-scheduled meetings, and there was no consensus from the other board members. Chip recommended everyone go through the strategic plan.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.