

September to November 2007 Website Update

September 24th, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Russell. All committee members were present

Regrets were received from Councilor Gary Meade.

The minutes of the August 22nd meeting were approved.

The Agenda was approved as circulated

Order of Agenda.

1. Possible Metro Transit Strike — This item was discussed and it was reported by Larry that negotiations were still in progress.

2. Satellite Taxi Update — Larry reported that we still have 40 clients traveling on Satellite but we are attempting to have everyone off as soon as we are able..

3. New Buses and Operator Update — Larry reported that the 10 new buses are being checked out by the URB the first new bus was on the road September 25th and the remaining buses should be on the road within a week.. Three new operators will be starting on October 1st. The next training session should have 6 more new AAB operators. Larry reported that the new GPS system is now in operation on the buses.

4. Subscription Service- This was discussed by the committee and it was noted that some clients are using this service under a grandfather clause and not meeting the established criteria of 3 trips a week to the same place. This matter is being investigated.

5. Update of Committee Address System and E-Mails- A new revised list is being compiled and will be sent out to committee members in the next mailing.

6. AAB Workshops - Still in the planning stages. No dates have been finalized yet.

7. Location of meetings for 2008 - Meetings for January to April will be held at the Alderney Gate Library in the Helen Creighton Room.

8. Terms of Reference — The revised Terms of Reference have been finalized and signed by the General Manager of Metro Transit. Copies will be sent to Committee members in the next mailing.

9. Eligibility Criteria - Todd is working to set up a committee to examine and revise

the eligibility criteria for AAB.

10. Information Holders on AAB- It was pointed out by Gary R. That the information holders on the buses were still empty. Larry will look into this.

11. Website Information Update — The June to August update will be sent in and the AGM from May will also be included for the HRM Metro Transit Website

12. Website Information — A discussion took place on how to make the website more user friendly. Todd will look into this make suggestions to be implemented.

13. Ramp Safety On Access-A-Bus — A discussion took place and it was stated that all wheelchairs and scooters must back on to the ramp except the new scooters that have a mid wheel.

14. Member at Large — After some discussion Bill Moffat was appointed member at large.

Business arising out of the minutes

Status of the No Show/Late Cancellation Committee— Larry advised that the No Show/Late Cancellation Committee will be monitoring the violations and warning letters will be sent for June to August and beginning with the September violations will be monitored and dealt with accordingly.

CNIB Bus Passes — Deferred until the next meeting

Consideration of Deferred Business —

1. Lloyd Samson Award - .The committee discussed the possibility of discontinuing the award due to poor response and disagreement over who should qualify for the award. The decision was made to continue the award for 1 more year.

2. List For Advance Bookings - Larry provided a draft copy of the list of Specialists for which clients would be able to book in advance.

3. Member at Large — Bill Moffat was appointed

4. Appointments To The Low Floor Bus Committee — Murray, Holman, Cathy Cranidge, Donald Mullins, Marcia Guy and Fred Bishop were appointed to the Committee. Todd Hacquoil remained as Chairperson.

Correspondence In/Out

In- Letter of Resignation from Mary Anne Jones

Out — Email to Shauna Maceachern advising her that due to non attendance as a committee member that it was necessary to replace her.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 PM

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 24th at the HRM Finance Office

October 24th2007

The meeting was called to order at 1 PM by Chairperson, Gary Russell

Regrets were received from Lynn Eyland and Marcia. All other committee members were present.

The minutes of the September 26th meeting were approved.

The Agenda was approved as circulated. An added motion was put forth by Todd Hacquoil that Gary Russell and Lynn DeMont would carry on as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson until the next Annual General Meeting in May 2008.

Order of Agenda

1. Strike Vote and Union Negotiations — A new 5 year contract is now in place ATU 508 voted 81% in favor of the new contract.

2. Update Info on New Buses & Operators — The 10 new buses are now in service and the old ones are in the process of being retired. We now have a fleet of 24 buses with 20 to be on the road each day. We have 3 new operators now with 6 more coming in November for the new pick. Larry advised that the UAB is now inspecting the buses every 3 months or 12,00 kms.

3. Specialist Bookings — There were a few changes noted on the Physician Specialist List and it was noted that the revised list would be forwarded to scheduling/

4. Lloyd Samson Award — The committee discussed the issue of whether to continue the Lloyd Samson Award into the future. This issue was discussed at great length with two areas of concern arising. The first as to when to end the Lloyd Samson Award. The second as to what to replace the award with. Todd put forward a motion ““The Lloyd Samson be discontinued after the 2008 Annual General Meeting of the Accessible Transportation Advisory Committee””. A letter will be

forwarded to the Samson family explaining that this will be the last year for the award and why. After some discussion the Committee agreed unanimously that this would be the last year for this award. Committees in the future can decide whether to start a new award to recognize Metro Transit Staff.

5. Tour of Transit Facilities — Deferred until January due to renovations at 200 Illsley Avenue.

6. New Passenger Tie Downs - There was some discussion regarding the safe tie downs of 1 post wheelchairs. It was noted that as long as the 4 tie down points are there, it is safe.

7. Access Awareness Week — There is an awareness exhibit planned for CNIB on October 29th.

8. New List Of ATAC Committee Info — Will be in November mail out.

9. Progress of No Show/Late Cancellation Committee — There are currently 8 incidents to be investigated and it is expected that these will probably run into the new year.

Business Arising Out Of The Minutes —

1. Satellite Taxi Update - Larry advised that there are still 40 clients remaining on Satellite but it is expected to have them off by the end of the year.

2. AAB Workshops- Lynn DeMont has taken this over from Peggy Brown. She requested dates so she could book the Bloomfield Centre. There was also discussion regarding having workshops at Metro Transit when the renovations are complete.

8. No deferred business

9, Correspondence In - One letter of appeal

10. Reports

10.1 Committees

1. No Show/Late Cancellation Sub-Committee - There are 8 incidents currently being looked at

. 2. Low Floor Bus Sub-Committee — It was requested that a revised map be developed showing the new ALF routes. This has been requested from or Graphics Department and will hopefully be available soon.

3. Public Relations Sub-Committee - No report

4. Eligibility Requirements Sub-Committee — Marcia has been elected as representative from ATAC for this committee. A brainstorming meeting is tentatively scheduled for Nov. 14th to get input from everyone and it is hoped to meet approximately once a week after this. Todd inquired if he could get a list of all those clients on a grandfather clause

10.2 Transit Services

No Report

12. Added Items

1. Weight Restrictions Ramp Safety — Lynn DeMont enquired as to what the weight restrictions is for the lift on Access-A-Bus. Larry advised that the new buses have the longest and strongest there is and the weight restriction is 800 lbs. With reference to ramp safety, Gary requested that when clients are backing onto the ramp, if it could be possible to have the operator guide them and also clients with walkers should be advised to let go of the walker and hold onto the yellow rails for safety purposes. A notice to the operators will be posted in this regard.

2. Straps On New Buses — It was noted that the straps on the new buses were not long enough. This has now been rectified.

3. New Buses — It was noted that on the new buses, a railing is required for the first seat as there is nothing to hold onto.

4. CNIB Passes — Larry advised he spoke with Mr. Gagnon at CNIB regarding issuing of CNIB passes and was told they continue to issue these to applicants who meet their criteria. These passes are for conventional transit only.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 P.M.

The December Meeting will be a Christmas Party at the Steak & Stein Restaurant on December 5th.

The next meeting be November 28th at the HRM Finance Dept. Duke Street Tower

November 28th. 2007

1. The meeting was called to order at 1 P.M. by Gary Russell

2. Committee Members Present — Gary Russell (Chairperson), Lynn DeMont (Vice-Chairperson), Larry Hilton (Supervisor Access-A-Bus). Terri Zinck (Administrative Clerk), Todd Hacquoil, Murray Holman, Gail Vaughan, Donnie Mullins, Gwen Maclachlan, Cathy Cranidge, Lynn Eyland, Bill Moffatt, Councilor Gary Meade.

3. Regrets - Fred Bishop

4. The minutes of the October 24th meeting were approved by Todd Hacquoil and seconded by Murray Holman.

1. Eligibility Criteria Report — Brainstorming meeting held on November 14th where members brought forth their concerns and ideas. The first meeting will be held in the new year. Terms of Reference have been drafted and Todd is in the process of preparing the agenda for the next meeting.

2. Progress of No Show/Late Cancellation Committee — Letters of violation to the system have been sent out and forwarded to Gary Ruusee from Larry. There is an appeal pending within a couple of weeks.

3. Information Holders On Buses — Gary requested again that these holders should be utilized. A suggestion was made that the free New Years Eve service should be something put in these holders.

4. Operator Picks — The November pick is completed with six new operators.

5. Passenger Tie Downs- It was noted that there are a couple of operators who are not using the shoulder belts. In some cases the operators are asking if the client wants to use the belts.

6. Lloyd Samson Award — It has been decided that this will be the last year for this award with the understanding that a provision be made to replace this award with some other method of recognizing employees.

7. Specialist Booking Revisions- Several additions have been made to this list which will be distributed with the minutes of this meeting.

8. No Show/Late Cancellation Policy - Concern was raised regarding the enforcement of the current No Show Policy.

9. Meeting Locations for 2008 — Meetings in the new year will be held at Alderney Gate with the exception of the April 23rd meeting. Todd will attempt to book this meeting Duke Street Tower. It is hoped to hold the June 25th meeting at Metro

Transit.

10. Satellite Taxi Update — There is still some confusion with the take over from Satellite Taxi because it was discovered that some of the clients picked up by Satellite are not registered with Access-A-Bus Applications have been sent out to these people.

11. New Operators — We have now six new operators and it is hoped to have five more in the new year with five more the following year.

12. Comments From Jim Leadon — Deferred till January Meeting

13. Tour of Transit facilities — Deferred to new year

14. Christmas Party — The Christmas Party will be taking place December 5th at the Steak and Stein Restaurant on Young Street in Halifax from 7 to 9 P.M.

15. CNIB Passes — Larry spoke to Lori Patterson regarding the passes and she has advised that the cut of date is next year. Larry will try to get confirmation of this for next meeting.

16. Website Update for Sept to Nov 2007 — Gary will be sending this information to Transit when the November minutes are approved.

17. HRM Call Centre 490-4000 — It was brought to the attention of the committee that when a complaint is taken at the Call Centre and a request is made to have a return call this is not being done.

18. Mud-Wheel Chairs — Larry advised that the policy regarding these chairs has not been re-written and they should continue to back on until notified otherwise.

There was no business arising from the minutes

No deferred business

Committee Reports will be presented at the January meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3 P>M.

The next meeting will be on January 27th

December 2007

There was no meeting held in December