

June – September Website Update

ATAC Meeting – June 23 2010

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm by Vice-Chairperson.

Committee members present: Terri Zinck (Administrative Support), Phil Herritt (Transit Communications and Systems Manager), Antonio Feijoo (Supervisor, Accessible Services), Cathy Cranidge (Vice-Chairperson), Joann Walsh, Murray Holman, Roy LeBlanc, Jim Leadon, Linda Pottie, Bonita Shepherd, Mel Larsen, Terry Cousineau, Gary Russell, Suzanne McConnell, Councillor Jerry Blumenthal.

Regrets – Todd Hacquoil, Pat Meagher

The minutes of the meeting held March 24 2010 were approved.

Agenda –

1. Welcome and orientation of new committee members.
2. Oath of Confidentiality – Signed by new members.

Reports

No Show/Cancellation Committee – No report available

Low Floor Committee – No report available.

Public Relations – Donations have been received for the 30th Anniversary BBQ planned for September 11th

Eligibility Committee – A proposal has been sent to upper management of Transit. Awaiting their comments. The review currently being done by IBI will delay any response.

Added Items –

Moment of Silence – A Moment of Silence was recognized by those present in memory of the late Fred Bishop who passed away suddenly. Fred was Chairperson of this Committee for the past two years.

Odour on Buses – An offensive odour has been noticed on certain buses lately. The Committee was advised that this has been investigated and the problem will be fixed.

Chairperson – It was unanimously agreed that the Chairperson seat would be left Vacant for this year.

Sub Committees – It was agreed that elections for the sub-committees would be postponed until the new members become familiar with the committees and their purpose. Job descriptions and member lists will be provided for the next meeting.

Update on Low Floor Routes – The Committee was advised of the new low floor routes which will begin late in August – Route 57 Russell Lake, 22 Armdale, 8 Waterfront, 52 Crosstown, 58 Woodlawn, 62 Wildwood and 65 Astral.

Dartmouth Bridge Terminal – This project is progressing slowly due to placement issues. Currently being negotiated.

General Discussion – It was suggested that at the end of each meeting a general discussion be held.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm

Next meeting – July 28 2010 1-3 pm Metro Transit Training Room A

ATAC Meeting – July 28 2010

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Chairperson.

Committee members present: Antonio Feijoo (Supervisor Accessible Services), Cathy Cranidge (Vice-Chairperson), Joann Walsh, Roy LeBlanc, Linda Pottie, Bonita Shepherd, Mel Larsen, Terry Cousineau, Gary Russell, Suzanne McConnell, Todd Hacquoil, Councillor Jerry Blumenthal.

Regrets – Terri Zinck, Pat Meagher, Murray Holman, Jim Leadon

The minutes of the meeting of June 23 2010 were approved.

Agenda –

1. Bus Signage – Concerns were raised about the sign holders on the buses not being utilized. It was stated that these signs were obstructing the view of the clients by the operators.
2. Frequency of ATAC Meetings – An enquiry was made as to why meetings could not be held every 2 months instead of monthly. It was explained that this is written in the Terms of Reference and it would be a long process to change.
3. Committee Position Terms – An enquiry was made as to why Committee positions could not be for 3 years. Again this is stated in the Terms of Reference.
4. Size of bus Shelters – An enquiry was made as to why all shelters could not be a standard size.

5. Metro Transit Communication with AAB Clients - A suggestion was made regarding improving the communication between Metro Transit and the disabled community. Several suggestions were made – public info sessions, improved web pages, Eastlink TV shows, mall displays.
6. Use of GPS by AAB Operators – The use of GPS by operators was discussed.

Reports

No Show/Late Cancellation Committee – No report available.

Low Floor Committee – It was reported that 2 new ALF buses are now in use.

Public Relations – 30th Anniversary BBQ plans were discussed.

Eligibility Committee – Still awaiting comments from upper management of Transit.

Added Items

1. PR Committee – It was suggested that perhaps the PR Committee could take a more active role in other events as the BBQ is only every 5 years.
2. Route #3 – Concerns were raised regarding the Route 3 being discontinued.
3. T-shirts – A suggestion was made regarding T shirts for committee members

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm

Next Meeting – August 25 2010 1 -3 pm Metro Transit Training Room A

ATAC Meeting - August 25 2010

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm by Cathy Cranidge, Vice-Chairperson.

Committee members present: Pat Meagher (Accessible Transit Manager), Terri Zinck (Administrative Support), Antonio Feijoo (Supervisor, Accessible Services), Cathy Cranidge (Vice-Chairperson), Joann Walsh, Roy LeBlanc, Linda Pottie, Bonita Shepherd, Mel Larsen, Suzanne McConnell, Todd Hacquoil, Murray Holman, Phil Herritt

Regrets – Councillor Jerry Blumenthal, Gary Russell, Terry Cousineau.
(Jim Leadon resigned from the Committee as he has taken on a new position within HRM)

The minutes of the meeting of July 28th were approved as corrected.

Agenda –

1. Elections – Elections for new Committee Members as well as Sub Committees was held.

Consideration of Deferred Business –

1, No Show/Late Cancellation Policy – Copies of this Policy were distributed to members and explained.

2. ATAC Web Page Update – It was suggested that a representative from Marketing attend the next meeting to discuss web pages and improvements to communications between Metro Transit and the disabled community.

Reports –

No Show/Late Cancellation Sub Committee – There is one appeal request. A meeting will be scheduled shortly.

Low Floor Committee – There are 7 new low floor routes to begin service effective August 29th. The tender is out for the new Dartmouth Bridge Terminal.

Public Relations – Plans for the BBQ are going well. More donations and prizes have been received. Brochures and signs have been put on the buses inviting clients to the BBQ. It is hoped to have a low floor bus on display. It was also suggested that members of this Committee could help promote AAB at upcoming public functions.

Eligibility – A proposal has been sent to upper management, still awaiting comments.

Added Items –

Route 3 – Deferred until Councillor Blumenthal is in attendance.

Booking Priority – It was noted that specialist appointments may be booked 90 days in advance.

The Committee was advised we will be receiving 10 new buses soon, 6 will be expansion and 4 will be replacement buses. There will be some shift changes as a result of this.

The Committee was advised that AAB will be re-locating back to 200 Ilsley Avenue on Friday, August 27th.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm

Next meeting September 22 2010 1 – 3 pm Metro Transit Training Room A

ATAC Meeting - September 22 2010

Meeting called to order at 1:30 pm by Todd Hacquoil, Vice Chairperson.

Committee Members Present: Pat Meagher (Accessible Transit Manager), Terri Zinck (Administrative Support), Joann Walsh, Roy LeBlanc, Linda Pottie, Todd Hacquoil, Murray Holman, Councillor Blumenthal.

Special Guest – Tiffany Chase, Coordinator Marketing and Communications

Regrets – Gary Russell, Terry Cousineau, Cathy Cranidge, Bonita Shepherd, Mel Larsen, Antonio Feijoo, Suzanne McConnell

There were not enough members present to represent a quorum so the minutes could not be approved. This will be deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda –

Metro Transit Public Relations Representative Tiffany Chase spoke to the Committee regarding improving communications with the disabled community. She reported that an accessibility study is planned including looking at marketing and communication improvements. This study is in addition to the IBI study which is currently underway. Public consultations as well as meetings with ATAC are planned.

The Committee made suggestions for improvements as well.

Opening Remarks – Suggestions were made to facilitate a more considerate atmosphere during these meetings, raise your hand before speaking and no side conversations as this makes it difficult to hear.

Reports –

No Show/Late Cancellation Committee – Letters have gone out to clients who have violated this policy. Some improvement has been noted.

Low Floor Committee – A meeting has been scheduled for this committee in late October.

Public Relations – The BBQ was a big success.

Eligibility – The IBI study has been presented to the HRM Councillors and will be taken to Council in the fall.

Added Items –

Passenger Pick Ups – It was noted that a passenger can be on the bus for up to 90 mins.

It was suggested that an update on the new Dartmouth Bridge Terminal be provided at next month's meeting.

There has been a shortage of buses lately as some have been sent out for warranty work which has led to more people being on the waiting list. This work should be completed by December and the new buses should be in service by then as well.

Meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm

Next meeting October 27 2010 1-3 pm Metro Transit Training Room A