

Mass Transit and Highway Advisory Commission
Minutes

Oct. 25 6:30 pm

Present: Karen Wagner, Renee Powell, Terry Hart, Jim MacPherson, Sue Larsen, Herb Asplund,
David Basile

Herb led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The agenda was approved unanimously.

The September minutes were approved unanimously.

Old Business

1. Grants: There is no information on the USDOT/RAISE grant site yet about filing dates or NOFO for 2023 grants. Damian Humphrey was not at the meeting but Karen Wagner shared the report he wrote. The NCAAA grants will be available in Spring 2023. So, we should be prepared for that. He could not find any links to funding applications for the AARP Foundation.
2. Trolley: Karen spoke to someone at CTTransit about the microtransit budget. The RPF date has not been announced but it will be handled through the CRCOGs. Karen will seek out a contact who will alert us when that announcement appears.
3. Fedex: Herb has talked to Cathy Gross who said she would forward his request for information to the right division.
4. Free bus program: A report in the Hartford Courant said that the free bus fares have increased ridership to 103% of the numbers in August 2019. The program is still expected to end on Dec. 1. Commission members discussed advocating for free fares and decided that should come from the town council. Karen will draft something.
5. Bus shelters. At least some of the bus shelters in Manchester have new scheduling information. South Windsor is expected to be next. Herb will call Cathy and check up on the situation.

New Business

1. There was discussion as to whether and how the Commission should advocate for riding the bus. Sue Larsen suggested putting something specific (i.e. riding the bus to get to Target). She will talk to Scott Roberts about that possibility. Terry Hart suggested putting

