

Mass Transit and Highway Advisory Commission

Minutes

September 25, 2018

Present: Bob Dickinson, Karen Wagner, Sue Larsen, Herb Asplund, Bruce Snow

Herb led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. The July minutes were approved unanimously. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Old business –

Bus program: Karen reminded everyone that there will be a bus education program at the Senior Center this Friday, Sept. 28. Herb, Sue, Karen and Bruce plan to be there. Karen said they were trying to get at least one person in a wheelchair so they could demonstrate how that works and one person on a bike to show how to secure a bicycle. There has been plenty of publicity. Karen thanked Herb for getting the signs outside the Senior Center. Herb said we should make sure that the riders know about fares, schedules, getting on and off and general orientation. Karen asked everyone to just help people with logistics. She also asked that everyone think of things to say in case a reporter shows up.

Follow up. Karen will write a short piece post-event. Bob suggested passing out an info sheet with web site info and other useful tips.

Other venues – The report on the Chamber video was tabled. Bruce spoke to the marketing person at ECHN, who was interested in the idea of using that office to promote public transit with a video. But he is not sure if a running video would be feasible. They discussed broadcasting something with a URL link to our video and web site. He also spoke to Dr. Kyrker's office and they also may be willing to do something similar. There was a discussion of producing something shorter than the current video so people could easily learn the essentials. Karen will talk to IT and connect them to Bruce for further work.

Sustainable Communities: Mass Transit contributed at least 5 points to the town's rating, possibly 10. The town has about 300 points. The exact number will be announced in mid-October. The town definitely qualifies for bronze status. Silver requires 400 points so we are well on our way. Bob followed up with Parks and Rec on the idea of a bike sharing program. They don't think that kind of a program

is possible at the moment. But the police department did say they have unclaimed bikes to dispose of every year so those could be used for free. There was a discussion of the town center road improvement project and how that might be used with a bike sharing program.

Grants: Karen passed out a study that CRCOG did to help Enfield qualify for its grant. The Commission will review the report and see how South Windsor fits with these benchmarks.

Website: The calendar on website is up to date and will remain so. Minutes are being posted.

Other old business: Bruce mentioned that the new development on Oakland Road, which concerned him, now has an improved entrance.

New Business

Other business: Bruce obtained list of all the businesses in town with their address. The Commission talked about how to use this as a map grid to plan bus routes. Karen will ask IT if they have a way to integrate the information into a town map.

Herb asked if we were required to record our meetings as some other commissions are. Karen will ask.

Bob said he is writing another letter to the PZC in support of sidewalks on new developments. He will send it around to the Commission to see if members want to add their support.

Trolley: The Commission discussed the willingness to take an expanded role in the shuttle project for Buckland Road and Sullivan Avenue now that Matt Galligan is leaving. Karen will ask him to come to the next meeting if possible to talk about the project's status.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

The next meeting is Oct. 23.