CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
OF THE MASS TRANSIT DEPARTMENT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
700 A-SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE ROOM
SEPTEMBER 12, 2008
2:00 P.M.

The Citizens Advisory Committee of the Mass Transit Department Board met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m. Committee Chair Ms. Robin Roberts present and presiding and the following Committee Members answered roll call:

Ms. Robin Roberts
Ms. Mary Castillo
Mrs. Soledad Galvan
Ms. Jane Ratcliff
Mr. Richard Sheldon (arrived late 2:20 pm)
Mr. Ernesto Dominguez (arrived late 2:20 pm)
Mr. Ernst Erbe (arrived late 3:10 pm)
Ms. Suzanne Fabian (Alternate Member) (arrived late 2:20 pm)
Mr. Frank Lozano (Alternate Member)

The following members were not present:

Mr. Walt Phillips
Mr. Alexander Catucci
Mr. Lawrence Harley (Alternate Member)

Agenda

1. Call to order.

   Item 1: The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m.

2. Public Comments

   Item 2: There were no public comments.

3. Approval of the minutes of the July 1, 2008 CAC Meeting.

   Item 3: Ms. Jane Ratcliff made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Mary Castillo seconded. All in favor.

4. Presentation on AT & T study and recommendations for upgrade to customer service phone system. (Bonnie Guinn)

   Item 4: Bonnie Guinn, Telecommunications Manager for City of El Paso, gave a power point presentation and evaluation of the current call center status and impact study comparing to what is expected of the new customer service call center project. And the steps required upgrading the existing system. Mr. Ernesto Dominguez made a motion to have Ms. Guinn come back with an update on the progress for the communication center. Mr. Richard Sheldon seconded. All in favor.

5. Discussion and action on use of sewer gas to power buses. (CAC)

   Item 5: Ms. Robin Roberts made a motion to postpone this item since Mr. Erbe was not present. All in favor.

6. Presentation, discussion and any needed actions on options for the Downtown Transfer Terminal. (DCM Jane Shang)

   Item 6: DCM Jane Shang gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the proposed Downtown Transfer Terminal. There was also hardcopies available. She discussed the two options between Santa Fe and Third; and Paisano between Oregon and Mesa. She discussed what the estimated costs would be, the estimated start and finish dates. She stated that this transfer terminal would be larger and safer for the pedestrians.

7. Discussion and action on charging fare for the Lift-certified rider when using the fixed route (reinstating the 2006 – no charge policy). (CAC)

   Item 7: Mr. Sheldon stated that the no-charge policy for LIFT certified passengers to ride the Fixed Route should be reinstated. Ernesto Dominguez made a motion to have Ms. Shang come back with recommendation to reconsider the reinstatement, Richard Sheldon seconded. All in favor.

8. Discussion and action on the Bassett Center outbound shelter. (CAC)

   Item 8: Suzanne Fabian made available a picture to the members of the CAC of a shelter at Bassett Center showing the safety concern and hoping it would be addressed and repaired as soon as possible. Jerry Davis stated that there is a open contract to fix and repair all shelters that are damaged and he will get on this specific one that was mentioned and he will come back to the CAC with an update on this shelter..

9. Discussion and action on shelters on Dyer between Five Points and Northgate. (CAC)

   Item 9: Ernesto Dominguez recommended moving bus shelter on Route 41, he stated that no one is ever there. Claudia Garcia stated that she is looking into that route and come back with a report to the CAC. She stated that Dyer is a TXDOT right of way; she also stated that she would do a study on this route and come back to the CAC members with an update.

10. Discussion and action on taping the CAC meetings for viewing on Channel 15. (CAC)

    Item 10: Suzanne Fabian suggested that these meetings should be taped for viewing on Channel 15. Mr. Dominguez stated that he was not interested and no one else had any comments. No action taken.

11. Discussion and action on Sun Metro buses on the UTEP campus. (CAC)

Item 11: Michael Herrera Planning Asst. Director stated that UTEP is moving towards a closed campus. UTEP has their own buses but they will also be moving out. UTEP does not have public streets, they are private property. No action taken.

12. Update on the bus stop at Wal-Mart on Transmountain Road and US 54. (CAC)

Item 12: Mr. Sheldon stated that it still has not been done. He has spoken to the direct manager from Wal-Mart and still hasn't given a date of when it will be done. No action taken.

13. Presentation on the Transit Strategic Plan. (DCM Shang)

Item 13: DCM Shang discussed the Transit Strategic Plan stated that there will be a Public meeting and then with the input from the public she will come back to the Mass Transit Board and the CAC to discuss.

14. Director's Report on operations, maintenance, fleet, and service.

Item 14: There were no comments on the Director's Report. Richard Sheldon made a motion to review the Director's report on their own and if they had any questions they would come back at the next meeting and discuss with Mr. Omick. Mary Castillo seconded. All in favor.

Motion made by Richard Sheldon to adjourn meeting, seconded by Suzanne Fabian, at 4:20 p.m. all in favor.

Approved as to form:

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Department Head/Board Secretary