

**MORRIS AREA PARATRANSIT SYSTEM
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Human Services Building
340 West Hanover Avenue
Ground Floor Conference Room
Morris Township, New Jersey
February 8, 2018

MINUTES

Members Present:

Marc Molde
Matthew Putts
Jean Perlman

Staff Present:

Ophelia Cruse, Director of Special Transportation
Pam Mansfield, Sr. Center Chatham's
Pat Petrillo, Aging
Diane Pezzuti, 5 Town DAR

I. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 10:36 am by Ophelia Cruse.
The meeting dates for 2018 were handed out to the members.

J.P. Are we moving these meetings up the hill to Morris View?

O.C. No, we are moving our offices to the Ground floor next week.

D.P. The parking spaces marked visitors outside the door, can we park there?

O.C. Yes, you are visitors.

II. Staff Report

- Our first meeting of the year we elect for Chairperson and Co-chairperson for 2018.
Ophelia announced that Marc Molde requested to be Chairperson this year.
- We need to nominate a Vice-Chairperson. Matthew Putts volunteered to be Vice-chairperson.
- So Marc Molde and Matthew Putts will Chair for 2018.

J.P. Is Tom still on our Committee?

O.C. Yes.

Motion: D.P.

J.P.

III. NJ Transit

- Isabel Hernandez is out on maternity leave, so there is no Transit report.

IV. New Business- 5310 Grant-

FFY 2016 The State review Committee met on September 14, 2017 and made the first round of selections for inclusion. The Local Programs staff will now begin the process of finalizing the selections and preparing the Program of Projects (POPS) to be submitted to the FTA.

FFY 2015- The FTA grant was received by NJT on September 8, 2017. The total Federal award amount of the grant was \$7,135,028, which includes capital, mobility management and operating awards. The Vehicles awarded will be part of the 2017 procurement process as options to the base package and we anticipate vehicle delivery from 2019 through 2020.

- **FFY 2014:** The vehicles awarded in this grant are part of the 2017 procurement package and we anticipate vehicle deliveries in 2019. Agreements for mobility management and operating awards have been sent out and should be returned to NJT as soon as possible.
- **FFY 2013:** Delivery of most minibuses is well underway and we expect them all to be delivered by the end of February. There are 13 minibuses that are part of the 2017 procurement package, and we anticipate vehicle deliveries in 2019. (We will receive 4 of these vehicles.)
- **FFY 2011 & 2010:** All of the vehicles from 2011 have been delivered and we expect delivery of the last two vehicles this week.

5311/SCDRTAP Grants

- **2018 Grant** is being reviewed by NJ Transit. This is the grant I use for the 2018 sub contractors /providers for dial-a-rides. Once this is approved, I will work on the 2018 contracts for dial-a-rides.
- I hope you submitted your 4th quarter reports to me.

V. Announcements-

- NJ Trans Action Conference will be held at the Tropicana Casino, Atlantic City, NJ on April 17,18,& 19, 2018. The application is available online, and the cost is \$355.00 per person. It is very informative, with over 900 attendees, over 80 presentations, that you can pick and choose from to attend.

VI. Public Comments-

Marc had hoped NJ Transit would be here because I am an advocate, I received a call from someone not happy with Access Link. And, I heard from many other people not happy either. I am not satisfied either.

She intends on writing the new Governor, because his campaign platform while running for Governor, was helping disabled persons, and to review NJ Transit.

NJ Transit should review their Access Link policies.

I recently read Manhattan, NY, has a program with accessible taxi's by using 311, text, call, or e-mail them. The difference being they can go anywhere and are not limited to traveling within the borough.

The same person contacted MAPS the day of the storm, and gives kudos to them for picking her up on time and her appointment

M.P. What is the basis for her complaint?

M.M. Access Link and Logisticare that receives NJ Transit funding is very reliable. I don't know if MAPS would like to support her efforts.

M.P. Maybe this consumer would like to get more signatures

O.C. At the last annual NJ Cost Conference, Sheila Oliver the incoming Lt. Governor was in attendance, and she is very good friends with Mr. Veira, President of N.J. Cost. He feels transportation issues will be heard. Please get me a copy of her letter and I will get into the right hands.

I also want to get more of the public to attend our meetings, especially when NJ Transit is here, so we have a captive audience. So they can say what they like, what they don't like, and what improvements they would like to see in the near future.

Jenn Carpinteri, our Department Head, wants me to look into Uber options, that we would supplement, like Chatham has.

D.P. Have any of you heard of EZ Ride? They charge less than Uber and Lyft.

M.P. Who are the actual ride providers?

D.P. It's a company in Middlesex County.

J.P. Do they travel out of County?

D.P. Yes, without restrictions.

O.C. I am thinking of asking them to come in and give us a presentation.

They are senior and disabled friendly. It's similar to Uber (the cost is less) you link your credit card to your account, and the initial charge is \$50, and as you receive rides they deduct, and then when balance gets low it will be replenished from your credit card account

P.M. Can I invite Tri-town to sit in on the presentation?

O.C. Yes.

J.P. Can someone give me the phone number for EZ Ride?

D.P. Yes, toll free **866-208-1307 option #4, 8am-8pm M-F from a cell phone.**

They partner with public and private organizations to access funds to lower cost to riders.

O.C. I would like to look into subsidizing their services for our population.

D.P. The **Jitterbug** phone (geared toward the Senior population) has a feature to dial 411 and it will call Uber for you, without downloading the app.

P.M. Go-Go Grandparent is on demand transportation for seniors that can be accessed without the use of a smartphone.

O.C. I forgot to get the minutes approved. Did everyone receive them via e-mail? Any corrections?

Motion: M.P. & J.P.

VII. Adjournment and next meeting

- Meeting adjourned at 10:55 am

Our next meeting is:

April 12, 2018

Human Services Building

340 West Hanover Ave,

Morris Plains, NJ 07950