

Triangle Transit Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2008
Board Room, 68 T.W. Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC

Board Members Present:

Jean Davis	Jeff Merritt
Joe Freddoso	Ellen Reckhow (left 3:10 p.m.)
Alice Gordon	William G. Smith
Bob Hinshaw	Bill Strom
Sig Hutchinson	Nina Szlosberg

Board Members Absent:

Bill Bell (excused)	Kenneth Spaulding
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Staff Present

Amy Armbruster	Wib Gulley
Laurie Barrett	David King
Michelle Dawson	Patrick McDonough
Tonya Dupree	Brad Schulz
Eric Friedman	Juanita Shearer-Swink
Damien Graham	John Tallmadge

Chair Sig Hutchinson called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

I. Adoption of Agenda

Action: On motion by Merritt second by Strom the agenda was adopted, substituting a presentation by Joe Milazzo, executive director of the Regional Transportation Alliance, for the presentation by Tim Profeta; and adding updates/reports on Reality Check, the 21st Century Transportation Committee, climate change legislation and the Triangle Transit annual report. The motion was carried unanimously.

II. Recognition

A. Introduction of New Hires

General Manager David King announced the hiring of bus operators Andre Fulmore, Todd Fonnville, Brian Smith, Clarence Henderson and Marie Batchelor and paratransit operator Keyoshi Smith.

B. Announcement of Promotions

None.

General Manager King then presented an *Above & Beyond Award* “for your outstanding teamwork to make Triangle Transit’s 3rd Annual Bus Roadeo on May 3, 2008, a resounding success” to the following team: Laurie Barrett, Vanessa Battle, Tellis Chandler, David

Crandoll, Lester Green, Derrick Harris, Vinson Hines, Charlotte Mayes, David Moore, Dennis Peterson, Tammy Romain, Ernest Shannon, Larry Villines, Pearl Waite, Frances Walker and Samuel Whitney. King explained that on the day before the rodeo a new location had to be found. Dennis Peterson accepted the award on behalf of the group.

III. Public Hearings

Chair Hutchinson recognized Tonya Dupree, who stated that the public hearing on the proposed FY09 budget had been advertised and the budget includes expenditures of \$42,070,429.

Chair Hutchinson opened the public hearing at 1:17 p.m.

Graham T. Olive, Jr. asked if the budget includes money for upgrading current routes.

There being no further comments, Chair Hutchinson closed the hearing at 1:18 p.m.

IV. Public Comment

Chair Hutchinson recognized Graham T. Olive, Jr. who asked the status of a previous suggestion for statewide reciprocity for monthly passes among transit systems. He also asked the possibility of establishing a bus route for the RTP campus of Mt. Olive College, and to southern Wake County and Knightdale. Graham then inquired whether DATA would have the same access to Triangle Transit's new hub. Hutchinson stated that staff would respond to Graham's comments.

V. Consent Agenda

Gordon requested that the approval of the minutes be removed from the consent agenda.

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Reckhow the consent agenda, as amended, was adopted. The motion was carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda item was approved:

- Unsealing of Closed Session Minutes - Board of Trustees
 - 08/30/2005 - A
 - 12/20/2006 - A, B
 - 03/28/2007 - A, B
 - 04/25/2007 - A
 - 05/23/2007 - A
- Unsealing of Closed Session Minutes – Operations & Finance Committee
 - 04/12/2007

Gordon then noted the following correction to the minutes (correction in bold italics):

- April 23, 2008 - Regular Session Minutes: Bill Strom stated that there were no significant items on the agenda *relating to Triangle Transit*.

Gordon stated that she previously had pointed out several typographical errors.

Action: On motion by Gordon and second by Strom the Board approved the minutes as corrected. The motion was carried unanimously.

VI. Presentations

A. Regional Transportation Alliance

Joe Milazzo, Executive Director of the Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA), presented several handouts, which are attached and hereby made a part of these minutes, including a statement regarding the final STAC report.

Gordon asked that Milazzo to elaborate on the statement about a new governance model and public accountability, specifically “a regional board of trustees comprised entirely of local elected officials that represent the various taxpayer bases across the region.” Milazzo replied that the Alliance recognizes robust local funding sources are needed which requires accountability and equitable distribution.

Reckhow stated that this recommendation directly affects Triangle Transit’s Board and asked if the Board should make a proposal to the MPOs. Hutchinson responded that he attended the RTA meeting and asked about this statement and was told public trust is the issue.

Merritt suggested that the General Manager research the composition of other regional transportation authorities in the country.

Merritt then thanked Milazzo for his leadership and stated that he felt there was misinterpretation about RTA’s “bus first” approach to the STAC recommendations. Milazzo responded that it was clear from the visit to Charlotte that a robust bus system is integral for getting overall support for transit. He added that all three elements (bus, circulators, and rail) are critical components of regional transit system.

Szlosberg asked that RTA consider endorsing the 21st Century Committee’s Intermodal Congestion Relief Bill.

VII. General Business Agenda

A. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

None (covered previously).

B. Personnel Committee Report

1. Clerk to the Board Contract Renewal

Committee Chair Bill Strom stated that prior to the meeting Board members were requested to provide comments on the Clerk’s performance to him. He said all comments were overwhelmingly supportive. Strom explained that the contract includes an automatic 3% increase if renewed and the Clerk had asked for no changes. He said after discussion, the Committee voted unanimously to recommended renewal of the contract with a 5% increase.

Gordon asked if the 5% was for this year only or a change to the contract. Strom replied for this year only.

Action: On motion by Merritt and second by Hinshaw the Board approved the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to renew the Clerk to the Board contract with a 5% increase to the contract rate effective July 1. The motion was carried unanimously.

C. Planning & Legislative Committee Report

Committee Chair Ellen Reckhow stated that the Committee received an update on the Short-Range Transit Plan and felt that Triangle Transit should be more aggressive on expansion. She said the Committee also discussed the creation of a Friends of Transit group.

D. Operations & Finance Committee Report

Committee Chair Jeff Merritt noted the Committee minutes at members' places and said staff continues to work on the FY09 budget.

VIII. Other Business

A. General Manager's Report

- David King stated that he has had conversations with others around the region about the STAC report and the municipalities are concerned about unmet local needs and lack of funding for such. Bill Strom commented that the mayors definitely are concerned about this once in lifetime opportunity to get some local funding earmarked for transit systems. He added that Bill Bell had stated that for a referendum to be successful the municipalities must be comfortable with it. Gordon noted that DCHC's position on the 21st Century legislation is that a portion of funding for local transit operations should be identified to ensure steady, dependable levels of funding to support local bus operations.
- Staff is discussing the technology choice issue for the various corridors in the STAC report.
- Several commercials produced for the SmartCommute Challenge were played.
- The Regional Call Center had its largest call volume day yesterday with 1,138 calls. Online pass sales are up 60%. April's ridership was up 20.5% from April 2007 and Triangle Transit topped 4,000 riders per day three times last week (a new daily record).

B. General Counsel's Report

General Counsel Wib Gulley stated that work continues on preparing the new offices for occupation, hopefully by the end of July. Work continues on the Regional Transit Center (RTC) and related issues. An Invitation for Bids (IFB) will go out this week for a general contract for the RTC.

C. Chair's Report

Board Chair Sig Hutchinson noted the recent positive attention for Triangle Transit's bus service in the media. He also said several Board members are discussing the Friends of Transit group.

D. Board Member Reports

1. Joint MPOs Report

Alice Gordon stated that the STAC presented its final report to the two MPOs at a joint meeting and STAC members were recognized with a certificate and letter. She said the next steps for DCHC would be a public hearing and incorporation into the 2035 LRTP. She said additional public workshops and hearings would be held on the alternatives analysis and the preferred alternative with approval of the 2035 LRTP scheduled for October.

2. CAMPO TAC Representative

Jeff Merritt stated that the TAC held a brief meeting to approve several consent agenda items.

3. DCHC TAC Representative

Bill Strom stated that Triangle Transit hopefully would be receiving STP-DA allocation from DCHC for a couple of buses. He also said the MPO discussed the 21st Century legislation.

4. Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA) Representative

No additional report.

E. Award of Contract for General Legal Services

Wib Gulley shared a memorandum, which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

Action: On motion by Reckhow and second by Hinshaw the Board authorized the General Counsel to enter negotiations with Smith Moore and Kilpatrick Stockton to contract for the provision of general legal services based on the terms in the Request for Proposals (RFP). The motion was carried unanimously.

F. New Business

Gordon noted the Triangle Transit FY07 Annual Report and suggested that the agency work to release the report while the officers responsible for that year are still in office.

Reckhow left.

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Smith the Board referred these comments to the Planning & Legislative Committee for a recommendation. The motion was carried unanimously.

Merritt stated that Reality Check is schedule for February 2009 in the Triangle. He said this is a regional visioning exercise, which will cover 15 counties from Alamance to Wilson and Warren to Moore.

Szlosberg said that the 21st Century Transportation Committee legislation has sponsors and no amendments at this point.

Szlosberg also noted that the federal climate change legislation is moving.

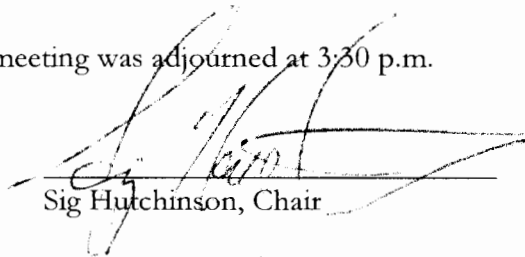
Davis noted that parking spots for new State employees have ceased in downtown Raleigh.

IX. Closed Session(s)

None.

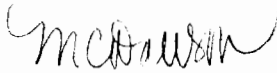
X. Adjournment

Action: On motion by Smith the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.



Sig Hutchinson, Chair

Attest:



Michelle C. Dawson, CMC
Clerk to the TTA Board