

New Hampshire Transit Association (NHTA)

MINUTES

January 6, 2011

Present: Van Chesnut, Lisa Paquette, Ken Hazeltine, Jim Sudak, Patrick Herlihy, Shelley Winters, Bev Raymond, Dianne Smith, Ginny Schneider, Rebecca Harris, Evan Rossett, Scott Bogle, Beverly Cray, Mike Link, Nik Coates

- I. ***December Meeting Minutes*** - 2 changes were noted in the December- Dianne Smith noted there was only one “n” in her name, calls for 2- correction made. Under New Business - Bev Raymond stated that the Volpe Center also attended the meeting with Kit on the topic of Recreational Transit Service. Correction made. Minutes approved with amended changes.
- II. ***Legislative update*** - Van stated that we are still in the process of pursuing “new contacts” within the newly elected legislators. Also still preparing for a meeting with the commissioner. There will be a meeting with Kit prior to the commissioner’s meeting to discuss topics. On the Federal side, there is a continuing resolution until March- ie APTA notices sent to membership.
- III. ***DOT update*** - Shelley reports that Karen Jennison is in the process of setting up a half day workshop on Drug & Alcohol Reasonable Suspicion Supervisor Training. Any providers needing this training are to contact Karen. The original deadline has passed for the 5310 Purchase of Service applications. The DOT has heard from the 9 formed RCC’s. 7 regions sent in a letter of intent and 2 sent in applications. Due date for applications has been extended to March. Notice announcing the two-year solicitation of projects for the Statewide Planning & Research Program (FTA Section 5304) was sent out last week via email. This was normally done on a one year basis. There is approximately \$200,000 in the pool. Shelley reiterated that in-kind match will “not” be allowed, cash match will be required. Formula funding for 5310, 5311, 5316 & 5317 will be out the week of January 17th. Format will be the same, no major changes. These will be due mid to late March. Chris Clements office has requested updates on ARRA funds once again. There where 7 vehicles delivered last quarter, 11 are due in January. Possibly the week of January 17th inspections will be scheduled for them at Matthews Bus in Brentwood. The RTAP, RFP is nearing completion. In regards to that topic, Dianne posed the question of being able to send volunteer drivers to the state mandated trainings, primarily Defensive Driving. Shelley stated that it may be allowed for now. Shelley and Kit have “thoughts” of a policy stating that a provider must be an RCC member in order to be allowed to send drivers to the trainings. There was concern that the Defensive Driver trainings would be “overloaded” if all volunteer drivers were allowed to attend. The concern was that drivers using their own cars would be allowed. It was felt that only if they are a volunteer driver for a provider, driving a provider’s (5310) vehicle, that they could then attend training. This is being looked at and will hopefully be cleared up in the near future. Other concerns were about insurance. The SCC will be addressing insurance at their meeting this afternoon, but Ken elaborated by saying that Insurance Companies will not insure if training programs for drivers are not in place. An RCC lead agency, or whoever signs the contract, must maintain training records for drivers. It was mentioned that this could “dwindle” volunteer driver pools due to these requirements. Lisa stated that her agency has set high standards for their volunteer driver program. They have not yet had any problems with drivers “resisting” training. They have had nothing but positive feedback on the training. Shelley and Kit would like input on volunteer driver trainings taking place or planned for the future.

IV. DHHS Update - No update at this time, Patrick left meeting @ 10:45- to attend another meeting. The SCC meeting will follow NHTA.

V. Treasurers Report - A financial statement was distributed to members from Ken. Nothing new to report this month.

VI. New Business - Nick Coates from CNHRPC gave a brief presentation / update on green commute week. Nick is organizing a Commute Green 2011 team and setting up meetings, hoping to work with other RPC's, TMA's and transit systems. Part of their goal is to take some of the burden off the DOT and help promote the transit services. The first meeting will be 9:00 a.m., January 13 at DES on Hazen Drive in Concord. For the past 2 years Green Commute week has been held in the middle of May. May 20th will be National Bike to Work Day. There are thoughts of making this a "multi-modal" day. There has been growing success with the event throughout the state. Fossil Free Fridays will run from the 3rd week in June through the third week in November. Nick is looking to recruit volunteers to be on the committee. He has requested help from any NHTA member, with interest, in being on the committee. Ginny Schneider from CAP will participate. Nick will be sending out meeting notices via email.

VII. Meeting Adjourned

VIII. Next meeting - February 3, 2011 at Jim's Place.

Recorder: Harry Costick, Secretary