

**Transit Advisory Board**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 12, 2015**

**Board Members:**

In Attendance: Lucy Birbiglia, Cristen Conley, David Kesner, Orville Pratt, Bill Richardson, Warren Smith, Bob Tilley and also sitting with the Board, Brendon Miller.

**Public:**

No one in Attendance

**ABQ Ride:**

In Attendance: Bruce Rizzieri, Director; Phyllis Santillanes, Administrative Assistant.

Poll was conducted to see how each person arrived to the meeting.

**Public Comment:**

Mr. Miller proposed changes to improve routes. Mr. Miller proposed route 93 be extended to the Montgomery Park n Ride. Mr. Rizzieri stated he will look into this. Mr. Miller proposed that the Route 5 be changed to travel to Carlisle and Gibson instead of using Lomas to service UNM, UNMH, and the Downtown. Mr. Miller believes this re-routing would cause less confusion – “Lomas” is not on the bus header sign or included as part of the route name - and provide better service to the Carlisle corridor south of Central. Mr. Miller states this would reduce the meandering on Route 16, and would result in some changes on Route 11. Mr. Miller provided a map for the proposed changes.

**Acceptance Agenda:**

Mr. Kesner asked for approval of the agenda, Mr. Schott moved to accept the agenda, Ms. Birbiglia seconded and the agenda was approved.

**Minutes from February 12, 2015:**

Changes were requested, before the February minutes were approved.

Mr. Kesner, believes Cristen Conley was present, later in the meeting, it was confirmed that she was not present at the February meeting.

Mr. Tilley asked that the statement he made at the end of the Director’s Report, on page 6, the second paragraph, be adjusted to read “The notice should ***also include*** walking, biking, or taking the bus.”

Ms. Conley wanted some changes made; on page 4, second paragraph, “Ms. Birbiglia ***stated”;*** in the same paragraph, re-writing the sentence to exclude, ***“through in terms of stating she discussed the fact”*** so the sentence makes better sense, and at the end of the paragraph, in the last sentence, should read ***“pay increase.”*** On page 5, the first paragraph, ***minutes*** was misspelled.

**Chairperson’s Report:**

Mr. Kesner inquired about the TAB membership. He was referring to an e-mail from the Mayor’s office that had information regarding the term expiration dates for current members. Mr. Rizzieri stated that the term information was sent by Carmen Ortiz, Constituent Services, Mayor’s Office. Mr. Rizzieri asked the board members to send him names of individuals who may be interested in serving on the board.

**Director’s Report:**

Mr. Rizzieri stated that ridership was down almost 4% compared to the FY 2014 July through February time period.

Mr. Rizzieri stated that the Marketing staff will be looking at route ridership to determine where promotional activities may assist in boosting ridership.

Mr. Smith would like to see enforcement of no profanity, in all forms, on the buses. Mr. Rizzieri stated the drivers can speak with the individual, request that the individual leave the bus, or call dispatch and request assistance.

Mr. Tilley would also like to see signs on the buses, about keeping feet off the benches. Mr. Rizzieri stated that some of the busses do have these signs, but it is hard to enforce.

Mr. Smith suggested that the Transit Department sell advertising space on route schedules to businesses.

There was an inquiry about the Rail Runner free veteran’s pass. Mr. Rizzieri stated that veterans who have a Veteran Administration health card, can obtain a pass that allows them to ride the Rail Runner for free. ABQ RIDE’s has had a similar program since April 2014.

Mr. Rizzieri announced that Molina Health Care will being moving it office to a Downtown location in May and will employ 600-650 people.

Mr. Rizzieri spoke about a recent Albuquerque Rapid Transit joint meeting with the Nob Hill Neighborhood Association and the Nob Hill Main Street organization. The purpose of the meeting was to present renderings of a landscaped median option and the landscaped sidewalk option. At this TAB meeting, Mr. Rizzieri showed two Nob Hill renderings and pointed out details, such as: on-street parking, space for bike lockers, resurfacing Central Avenue, ADA curb cuts, and marked pedestrian crossings. The two Nob Hill organizations voted for the landscaped sidewalk option.

There was more discussion and questions regarding the locations of the stations, cost, size of lanes, as well as safety of pedestrians. Mr. Rizzieri provided further details.

**Unfinished business/New Business:**

Mr. Kesner stated the Board would not be discussing sending a letter to the city councilors at this meeting.

Ms. Conley spoke on behalf of the students of Job Core, who would like Transit to look into extending Route 8 Saturday and Sunday service.

Mr. Tilley spoke about the Bike Share program. Mr. Rizzieri stated that he thinks there will be a station within the ATC complex.

Next meeting will be on April 9, 2015 at 11:45 at the ATC.

**Meeting adjourned**

The Board approved and the meeting was adjourned at 12:59