

**Transit Advisory Board**

**Meeting Minutes**

**June 9, 2016**

**Called to Order:**

Mr. David Kesner called the meeting to order at 11:46 am

**Board Members:**

In Attendance: Cristen Conley, Annie JonesFrancis, David Kesner, Willie Richardson, Warren Smith, Bob Tilley, Patricia Salisbury, Brendan Miller.

**Public:**

In Attendance: Nathan Hardman, Cheryl Hunt, Judy Hatfield, Kathryn Arndt.

**ABQ Ride:**

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

Mr. Kesner took roll and polled the Board as well as others as to what was their mode of transportation to the meeting.

**Acceptance of Agenda:**

Mr. Kesner asked for approval of the agenda. Ms. Conley moved to accept the minutes. Ms. Conley seconded and the minutes were approved.

**Minutes from April 14, 2016 and May 12, 2016:**

Changes were needed for the minutes of April 14, 2016, they are as follows; first page, change “Diane Dennish” to “Diane Gibson” City Council member and Ms. Gibson was for the ART, not against it.

The second change was regarding the spelling typo for Kirtland Air Force Base.

Mr. Tilley moved to accept the minutes. Ms. Conley seconded and the minutes were approved, with changes.

Ms. Conley moved to accept the minutes for May 12, 2016, Mr. Richardson seconded and the minutes were approved.

**Public Comment:**

Ms. Cheryl Hunt wanted to know what the policy was; to lower the kneeling bus, location of bus shelters, to provide schedules at stops, and providing trash cans at stops.

Mr. Rizzieri responded to her questions as follows; the bus driver ‘kneels” the bus when requested or when s/he believe that the individual may need assistance; shelters depend on location and if there is available public right away; most bus stops don’t have posted schedules; and trash cans at stops are regularly emptied, if there is a concern, called Transit and a bus stop maintenance staff person will respond.

Ms. Hunt suggested that schedules be located at every bus stop. Mr. Rizzieri explained that with the number of bus stops it would not be feasible to place and maintain schedules at every stop. Ms. Hunt stated that the Medical Arts bus stop needs schedules for the #5; also the Rolando and Yale stop needs Route #50 schedules

Ms. Hatfield stated her concern was that she was not able to get a three month pass due to the computer system being down. Ms. Hatfield also stated she was concerned that the NM Park-and-Ride maps were only available in Spanish. Mr. Rizzieri stated that the NMDOT provides maps for this service. Transit will request additional maps in English. Ms. Hatfield was upset that the Customer Service Representative could have answered her with information like this instead of just saying, “No”.

Mr. Hardman began to express his concerns about the Sun Van service. Mr. Hardman was provided information about the PTAB. Mr. Rizzieri spoke with Mr. Hardman and a Sun Van staff assisted Mr. Hardman with his concern.

Ms. Kathryn Arndt had concerns because the buses do not have longer operating hours on the weekends and no service on holidays. She explained that people need to get places even on the weekend and holidays. If she had a job that she needed to work on the weekends, she would probably lose it, because of the weekend schedule.

Ms. Salisbury suggested she may be able to use the Sun Van. Ms. Arndt stated that would not be appropriate for her life style. Ms. Arndt feels that there a lot of people who feel this way.

**Visitor presentations:**

Mr. Dixon from the Hunning Highland/EDO Neighborhood association, a section on Central from Broadway to 1-25 spoke about the ART project and how these neighborhood associations are working with the City. Mr. Dixon gave a history of the area and updated the Board on current issues. Mr. Dixon stated they are in support of the ART with some design changes in this area. Mr. Tilley asked Mr. Dixon to consider working with other neighborhoods.

**Announcements/Chairperson’s report:**

Mr. Kesner stated that he watched the City Council and saw that the CABAB (Central Avenue Business Advisory Board) resolution had passed. Mr. Kesner stated that Councilor Gibson asked if the Transit Advisory Board had seen the new policy. Mr. Rizzieri stated that Council Staff came to a TAB meeting.

Mr. Kesner welcomed Mr. Brenden Miller as an official member of the TAB.

Ms. JonesFrancis stated that during next month’s TAB meeting there will be elections for chair and vice-chair. Mr. Kesner added that he will not be running. Ms. Conley stated that she will be running.

**Director’s report:**

Mr. Rizzieri stated that ridership is holding at 7.5 percent below ridership for the same time period last year.

The City Council amended the CABAB (Central Avenue Business Advisory Board) resolution to include a “Sunset” clause. The Board will expire one year after ART has been in operational service.

During the meeting next month there will be two action items. One item is the annual “Public Notification” resolution. The second is the “FY 2017 Meeting Schedule” resolution.

The ART team continues to meet with individuals and organizations and to make modification to the design.

Ms. Kesner asked Mr. Rizzieri about lawsuits that he is hearing about to stop ART. Mr. Rizzieri explained two law suits, one in federal court the other in state court, have been files asking the respective judges to issue a restraining order against the start of ART construction.

Mr. Miller asked how likely it could be for the judge to grant a restraining order. Mr. Rizzieri stated he did not know.

Mr. Rizzieri stated that presently the possibility of law suits is not causing any delays to the finishing the design of the project. The City anticipates completing the project in the fall of 2017.

Ms. Conley found the information about the lawsuit and she provided information to the board.

**Paratransit Advisory Board report:**

Mr. Rizzieri stated the PTAB had a short meeting. He told the Board that ridership is up 2.5 percent. There are vacancies for Sun Van drivers and the department is currently hiring 6 individuals.

Mr. Rizzieri stated that the PTAB Board is lacking members.

**Adjourned:**

Mr. Kesner moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:17pm

**Next meeting:**

11:45 am, July 14, 2016 at the Alvarado Transit Center.