



Town of Sudbury

<https://sudbury.ma.us/transportation/>

Sudbury Transportation Committee

Minutes

Thursday, February 7, 2019

9:30 AM

Police Department Conference Room, 75 Hudson Road, Sudbury, MA

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Carmine Gentile, Alice Sapienza, Beth Suedmeyer, Bethany Hadvab

Advisory Group Members Present: Deb Galloway, Scott Nix

Absent: Charlie Dunn, Daniel Nason, Susan Iuliano

Also present: Jennifer Roberts (Citizen)

Confirmation of Quorum

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, Dan Carty as acting chair convened the meeting at 9:30 AM. The Conference room was available until 11:00 AM.

Selection of Clerk to take minutes

Debra Galloway volunteered to take minutes for this meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes was postponed last meeting due to many absences from illness.

Alice Sapienza requested a few edits to the Jan. 10, 2019 meeting Minutes. The Committee moved to unanimously approve the Minutes of the January 10, 2019 meeting pending the suggested edits.

The Committee moved to unanimously approve the Minutes of the January 24, 2019 meeting.

Review Action Items From 1/24/19 meeting

- 1. Transportation Committee Annual Report** - Beth shared a draft of the report with the Committee. The Committee reviewed the draft and signed the signature page. The Committee moved to approve the draft and to have Suedmeyer submit the draft for inclusion in the Town's Annual Report.
- 2. Change in Status of Committee Member Sapienza** – Carty reports that Sapienza will become the Sudbury Livable Community Ambassador Representative to the Transportation Committee. Carty will make sure this is on the Selectboard agenda for official approval.

3. **MWRTA Grant** – Members have not heard a report on whether the grant was funded. Galloway to check with MWRTA staff – also to get a copy of the grant proposal.
4. **Weston COA Ride Hailing plan** – Galloway to research this.
5. **Quarry North Shuttle** – Suedmeyer and Carty will be working on this. Galloway mentioned that a group of Frost Farm residents is advocating for the now vacant Frost Farm “house” to be rebuilt as new condos for the development. In addition, there is a suggestion to see if the developer of Quarry North would like to add these buildings to his plans for Quarry North which is a few miles away. Suedmeyer wonders if MEPA involvement in QN development includes thresholds on traffic that will affect QN?
Suedmeyer discussed how this development may transition from a 40B to a 40R, which might help with guidelines for traffic mitigation. Suedmeyer/Planning Department will reach out to Concord/Lincoln as abutters to the development.

Update on Livability Assessment

The Livable Sudbury community needs assessment final report is available online at the Sudbury Senior Center website and being shared to the Town, Town Manager and Planning Department webpages, as well as the Town Facebook page.

Galloway, Sapienza and Jan Mutchler, principal researcher on the Livable Sudbury Assessment, attended the February 4, 2019 Selectboard meeting to present a summary of the Livable Sudbury assessment results. A more detailed formal report will be presented to the public at the Goodnow Library on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, at 6:30 PM. Transportation, communication, and inclusion were key themes.

The question of “who owns” the Livable community project going forward was brought up at the Selectboard meeting. Clearly, the Transportation Committee owns the transportation piece. Sapienza shared the Brookline MA Community Action Network (CAN) groups’ Elder Resource Guide. Brookline CAN is an all-volunteer group that advocates for and guides the Livable community initiative in Brookline, among other things.

Update on Microtransit Vendor Presentations to MAPC

Sapienza reports that the MAPC grant is due February 15. Sudbury Transportation Committee (STC) will send a letter of support. Galloway will ask MWRTA to also send a letter of support. Sapienza has a draft ready.

Grant proposal focuses on the toughest gap to fill: rural towns in the MAGIC region, with high priority transportation needs. See Sapienza Exhibit 1: Estimating TNC Usage, and Exhibit 2: Summary of Efficiency and Regionalization Grant Proposal (attached) (veterans have been added as a priority customer). The estimated average ride hailing ride cost is \$21 per ride. Most of the project funds will be directed toward a Project Manager, some funds to the subsidy for rides, and the community is asked to match that subsidy (to increase likelihood of sustainability), another sum will be used for an hourly rate paid to “transportation ambassadors”. Transportation ambassadors will be from the targeted communities and will assist “customers” with access and any local issues.

Sapienza attended 5 of the 6 presentations to MAPC, including presentations by TransLoc, Trans-Dev, Via, E -cab, Liftangle.

Action item: Sapienza to reach out to David Klein, Carlisle COA Director re: their uber/lyft health project.

Update on Efficiency and Regionalization grant proposal from MAPC

Sapienza shared the final grant proposal, see attached.

TNC and Taxi Presentations to Transportation Committee

Sapienza suggested that this group needs to invite TNCs and Taxi companies to discuss possible projects. The Committee agreed that this is a priority.

Action item:

Emerson Hospital Connection Update

Carty reported that Susan Iuliano organized a meeting with Christine Schuster, President and CEO of Emerson Hospital, and Christine Gallery, Emerson's Planning and Chief Strategist for Business Development. The Committee agreed to invite Christine Gallery to the next STC meeting on Thursday, February 21, at 9:30 AM – in the Police Department Community Training room. Sapienza stated it would be helpful to know what proportion of Emerson Hospital patients are from Sudbury. Sudbury residents use the hospital as well as Baker Avenue, Concord medical offices and physical therapy locations. There may be Mass. Health Association data on patient population.

Do we have any information on numbers of persons with disabilities in town? Would Susan Iuliano have access to this data from the Commission on Disability?

Carty mused about how many patients are going to Emerson Hospital that missed appointments due to transportation issues. This information is valuable to the hospital due to the cost associated with it. Would be helpful to know percentages of outpatient visits from Sudbury for physical therapy offices and Baker Ave. medical offices, etc. Sapienza stated that CHNA funds are based on the percentages of town residents that use the hospital.

Action item: Hadvab to reach out to MetroWest Hospital connection to see if they have need/interest in exploring transportation needs of patients.

Action item: Sapienza, Hadvab and Galloway to prepare agenda for Emerson Hospital visit by Tuesday, February 19.

Drivers

Hadvab mentioned that Boxborough Social Worker talked about challenges of new transportation project due to lack of available drivers. Sapienza reminded the group about Mass Bizworks' "promise" to provide drivers for these needs.

Member Updates

Suedmeyer and Galloway had to cancel meeting with CrossTown Connect in January due to illness. Will reschedule soon.

Lexington Transportation Manager Susan Barrett could not come today, but will be rescheduled.

Suedmeyer is planning to attend the April MassDOT training in Worcester.

Hadvab mentioned that she has 2 interns who finish in April and May. She is looking for new interns.

Sudbury Foundation recently created a Facebook page for non-profit organizations to post news. Town staff cannot post to it, but others can. In addition, town staff cannot post to OneSudbury or Sudbury Bulletin board but all of these can be useful for communicating with residents about transportation services, as well as, a need for additional drivers.

Carty shared that the State put the Route 20/Landham Road site out to bid for a new traffic light. Coolidge at Sudbury will have a new building in April or May. A survey about how transportation money should be used is due Feb. 28.

Discuss and schedule upcoming meeting

Next meeting will be on February 21, at 9:30 AM at the Police Station Training (downstairs).

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.