



Town of Sudbury

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

Sudbury Transportation Committee

Minutes

Friday, November 6, 2020

10:00 AM

Via Town Zoom Conference Call

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Sandy Lasky, Debra Galloway, Alice Sapienza, Doug Frey, Dan Nason, Adam Duchesneau

Core Member Absent: none

Advisory Members Present: none

Advisory Members Absent: Charlie Dunn, Scott Nix, Beth Suedmeyer, Carmine Gentile, Bethany Hadvab, Lisa Kouchakdjian, Ellen Joachim

Guests: Linda Faust; Kay Bell, Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV)

Confirmation of Quorum

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, Dan Carty as chair convened the meeting at 10:03 am following a voice roll call of attendees. Dan announced that this was a public meeting and the meeting was being recorded via Zoom and by Sudbury TV for future viewing.

Selection of Clerk

Dan volunteered to take meeting minutes.

New MAPC Grant

Alice discussed new MAPC grant which is for up to \$250,000 to be used through December of 2021 and proposed to the group that it may be advantageous to include neighboring towns of Hudson, Maynard, Stow, and Concord. She stated that she reached out for and received feedback from Maynard and Hudson, and they seemed interested. She also stated that this would be for taxi service and not Uber. Doug asked what the benefit of multiple towns would be to Sudbury; Alice stated it could potentially provide more service in and out of Sudbury. Doug stated his concern that it may dilute wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) availability for Sudbury residents. Dan asked if there were any other taxi companies in any of those towns or if we would have to rely solely on Tommy's Taxi and JFK Transportation. Alice stated there were no taxi companies in those towns. Dan asked about operations and would Sudbury have to handle inquiries and issues from other towns. Alice stated that the other towns would have to provide what Sudbury had set up and operational impact to us should be minimal.

Alice state that MAPC still needs to get back to her with regards to the multi-town approach and that their response would drive how much work and in what manner Alice approached applying for the grant. Adam stated that he liked the idea of multiple town approach but also that we would have to make our relationship with JFK flexible so that we could disperse sedan rides between JFK and Tommy's. Doug asked how the grant money would be allocated across towns; Alice stated that each town would have their own budget; one town would not have access to another's money. Linda inquired as to why Marlborough was not included as they bordered us; Alice stated that they were not a member town of MAPC. At this point Dan took a straw poll and the group generally agreed with the multiple town approach.

MAPC COVID-19 Taxicab, Livery, Hackney Transportation Partnership Grant and Taxi Program a.k.a. the "Go Sudbury! Taxi Rides Program"

Sandy discussed taxi ridership data collected to date and that she and Alice had met and wanted to discuss how to expand ridership beyond those 50 years of age and older. They recommended that we reach out to Charlie Dunn of the Chamber of Commerce in an effort to boost signups from essential workers, Scott Nix to boost veterans, and Bethany Hadvab for those financially vulnerable. Sandy requested that we get mailing lists from there and state that the Committee would do the bulk of the work and we just needed to know whom to contact. Sandy also asked Doug if he had a way to contact those with disabilities to which Doug stated they did not have a list per se. Deb stated she would hand out flyers at the upcoming Veterans Day luncheon, and Dan stated he would reach out to the Sudbury Housing Authority and HopeSudbury as well as Charlie Dunn from the Chamber of Commerce. Sandy volunteered to contact Emerson Health and local supermarkets, and Dan stated he would attempt to contact the Sudbury Food Pantry and would also discuss school newsletter options with the Sudbury Public School Committee Chair. Alice offered to contact The Sudbury Foundation, Gifts of Hope Unlimited, and the Sudbury Clergy Association, letting them know about the program.

Alice then stated that Tommy's Taxi did not appear to be receiving information about rider needs in the dispatch communication. Adam confirmed that Beth Perry (Planning Department) shares this information but they will strive to continually streamline communications.

Doug inquired into the number of WAV riders we have had and wondered if it was one person taking multiple riders, multiples people taking one ride, or somewhere in between. Adam thought it was one person taking multiple rides with another person or two taking a smaller number.

Sandy reported that she had presented to the Council on Aging subcommittee and they unanimously agreed that the \$10,000 of mitigation money from The Coolidge housing project should go to the Go Sudbury! Taxi program. She noted that the Council would be meeting on Tuesday November 10 where she will present to the entire group for approval.

Dan mentioned that we had two more registrants since our last meeting. Alice noted that she had received the data format from MAPC that they desired for mid-course reporting, and Dan asked if he could help populate their sheet with our data. Adam reported that we did not yet have October invoices form JFK or Tommy's but confirmed that all appropriate financial accounts were set up so we

would be able to pay them upon receipt. He also suggested that using Beth Perry as dispatcher was not a suitable long-term solution.

Deb brought up our post card survey and discussion ensued. Sandy said she would forward to Dan who could then create a Google Form so that we can survey riders electronically. Deb said she would ask Ana Christina Oliveira (Sudbury Senior Center) how many users may have issue with filling out a survey electronically.

Doug left meeting shortly after 11:00AM.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of 30 October were unanimously approved without edits.

Next Meeting

The Committee agreed that the next meeting will be November 13, 2020, at 10:00 AM via the town Zoom service.

Administrative Updates

Dan announced that Adam was appointed by Town Manager Henry Hayes to be the Town liaison to MAPC. Dan also announced that he would be the Select Board's member of the MBTA Advisory Task Force. Adam announced that the Town credit card needed for our upcoming Uber program was in progress and moving with no issues.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn unanimously approved at 11:07 AM.