



Town of Sudbury

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

Sudbury Transportation Committee

Minutes

Friday, October 16, 2020

10:30 AM

Via Town Zoom Conference Call

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

Advisory Group Present: Lisa Kouchakdjian

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

Guests: Linda Faust, Kay Bell (silent observer)

Confirmation of Quorum

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, Dan Carty as chair convened the meeting at 10:32 am. Dan made an announcement that this was a public meeting and the meeting was being recorded via Zoom and by Sudbury TV for future viewing. He also took a roll call of members.

Selection of Clerk

Sandy volunteered to take meeting minutes.

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

The taxi program currently has 39 people signed up. Anna Christina is experiencing a trickling in of new applicants on a weekly basis and now that the learning curve has peaked, the process is fairly seamless. Beth is also doing well with signing up people for rides and will continue to check requests during off hours to ensure rides are scheduled. She has had a few cancellations, and has found that these riders are giving 24 hours notice.

A one-page summary of the first week of rides was shared with MAPC. They will send their own spreadsheet to the Transportation Committee for future use.

To-date, based on our 4 key segments, we have: (not mutually exclusive since applicants may meet multiple criteria)

36 Seniors
18 Disabled
9 Financial Need
0 Veterans

After one week of enrollment, we started asking applicants how they heard about GOSudbury Taxi. The majority heard about the program through the Senior Center with a few mentioning the newspaper and social media.

Doug asked about booking round trips. The current process has a “will call” so that when a return ride is needed, the person calls for a pick up and may have to wait a short time for the taxi to arrive.

Further discussion ensued about how we are tracking the budget, the number of rides, cost of rides and how that breaks down between the two taxi services, especially with JFK offering WAV rides which are more expensive.

To-date JFK has billed out \$540 for WAV rides. However, these were rides of longer duration to medical appointments (about \$133 was for 2 round trips to Mt. Auburn and Boston). We have not received an invoice from Tommy’s Taxi yet.

Funding for this is still limited to our MAPC Grant, Bay Path Grant and \$10,000 from the Coolidge.

The COA is in discussion on how they will allocate funds received from B’Nai Brith. Sandy and Debra will follow up.

GOSudbury (Uber) mitigation funds is now \$20,000, and \$5,000 of this will be allocated to GOSudbury Taxi.

Other Issues

Rides originating at Nursing Homes remains an open issue. We will rely on each Taxi Company to provide us with their policies.

Linda Faust asked if a ride waiver needed to be signed for every ride. The town waivers signed when joining the program cover the length of the program, however, we will follow up with the Taxi companies to determine if they need a signed waiver for every ride.

Linda also asked on how far she can take a taxi. The grant guidelines state that there is a 25 mile limit.

Postcard Survey – Sandy will add a line for comments and a check box for which Taxi service was used

GOSudbury (Uber)

The Town Manager has executed the Uber contract and Adam is working with the Finance Department to set up the account to initiate the Credit Card which will be used for the Uber Account.

The target launch for this program is November.

Katie the marketing and messaging contact at Uber will work with Debra, Doug and Sandy to ensure our committee's marketing efforts comply with Uber guidelines.

The plan is to start with a small beta test which will include those people who have been on the waiting list for the service.

Uber is expecting the town/committee to send files to be used on the Driver's App which will set geofences and be used to collect co-pays which are tied to this data.

At our next meeting we will continue the White Boarding exercise of the application and ride reservation process to ensure that we have planned as best we can for a smooth process.

Debra and Adam will determine the impact to staff of adding the registration and ride reservation process for this program.

Dan will meet with the Health Department to ensure that the proper safety protocols are in place as part of our White Boarding process.

Other Updates

The Senior Center has received the Electrostatic Sprayer which will be used to sanitize the vans. However, Bill Murphy is looking at the up tick in cases in Sudbury before allowing van rides to proceed.

The Making the Connection meeting will take place October 20.

MAPC check is in hand and on the BOS agenda for October 20. Once it is accepted, the appropriate accounts will be open.

Senior Center – early voting starts October 17 and may increase taxi program ridership.

Coldbrook Crossing (Quarry North) will be running a shuttle loop to include the train station and other locations in Sudbury (TBD). This will be open to the development and all town residents but will only stop at fixed locations.

Dan Nason's attendance at our next meeting is mandatory to discuss traffic issues related to both the taxi and Uber service.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 18 was approved and October 2 meetings are pending approval based on edits which were not available at the meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for October 30, 2020 at 10:00 AM via the town Zoom service.

Motion to Adjourn

Alice moved to adjourn at 11:38 AM and Debra seconded; the motion was passed 6-0.