



Town of Sudbury

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

Sudbury Transportation Committee

Minutes

Friday, July 9, 2021

10:30 AM

Via Town Zoom Conference Call

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Sandy Lasky, Alice Sapienza, Doug Frey

Core Members Absent: Debra Galloway, Dan Nason, Adam Duchesneau

Advisory Group Present:

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

Guests: Linda Faust, Kay Bell, Lynn Puorro (SudburyTV), Ana Christina Olivera

Confirmation of Quorum

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, Dan Carty as chair convened the meeting at 10:33 AM. 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

Sandy volunteered to take meeting minutes.

Administrative Updates

- Dan noted that:
 - That no decision has been made for the TNC disbursement from the State. This matter is still pending, and the Town Manager is open to the Transportation Committee using the money if we make a valid case for its use.
 - The next Making the Connections meeting date is still pending. It was suggested that at this meeting the chart developed by Kay Bell be presented so that the other towns can see what we are doing, and the Sudbury representatives can determine if the other towns have implemented any programs that may be appropriate for Sudbury.
- Dan has asked the Select Board to refresh the Transportation Committee's charter. This will be on the agenda at their next meeting.
- Doug suggested that we come up with a list of questions for the MWRTA committee prior to their next meeting in the Fall. There is also the question of who should have the second open position on this committee from Sudbury.

- Sandy shared information from her meeting with MWRTA. The most relevant information is that the MWRTA wants to increase the availability of micro transportation, however, there is a shortage of drivers and dispatch personnel.
- Alice will invite someone from Newton to speak with the Committee about their VIA program.
- MAPC asked for the final report. Alice sent an update which is a fuller report including WAV rides and comments and success stories.

Go Sudbury! Taxi Program

Spending to date (May to End of June) is \$5,888.

We still have a small number of riders which make up most of the taxi usage. To-date we have 7 riders who have taken 38 rides.

Go Sudbury! Uber Program

Uber has sent an email confirming payment of \$1,618.72. Spending to date (May-June) - \$2,211. As expected, Uber is proving to be more cost effective than the taxi program.

Source/Use of funds graphic was recommended by Dan as a way for us to visually monitor spending. Alice noted data for this graphic should be available from Adam, who is sent the receipts for payment.

Dan shared an email from a Go Sudbury Uber user with Bethany Hadvab about a bad user experience.

Wait time for rides seems to have stabilized, but will be checked again (with thanks to Dan Carty for providing this information).

Other Issues

Dan is communicating with Carmine Gentile about State Funds for transportation. An invitation will be issued to Carmine to discuss these funds with the Committee.

As we accumulate more data, we will look to make recommendations for other transportation options on heavily traveled routes. Dan will look at the geo coded data to identify hot zones based on pickup and destinations to facilitate this.

Doug shared comments from a recent COD meeting from a resident of the Coolidge. There seems to be an issue of where residents will be picked up. There are no benches for residents to wait for a ride and the waiting area is not visible from the lobby. This is more of an issue with the Coolidge than with the taxi program. Crosstown Connect will be informed of this so that they can direct the drivers to correct the situation in real time.

The question about how to work with residents who do not have smart phones was raised. Ana also stated that residents with Smart Phones still need assistance.

10 people who have registered for the Uber program have not been active. Ana will reach out to these people to determine why.

There is money available to provide technical assistance that has not been used.

There is a need for better outreach and communication for both Go Sudbury programs.

The chart developed by Kay Bell will be included in the next Senior Center Newsletter.

The Committee decided that we will make a second presentation to the Select Board in the Fall.

Annex Transportation update provided by Doug Frey. They would like to work with us. The next step is to bring it to the Making the Connections team and to discuss with Adam.

Dispatch

Dispatch is working well, however, since it is based on the number of rides, it is proving to be costly. It is taking the stress off of Town employees and provides more consistency.

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the 6/25/21 meeting were reviewed, and minor edits made. Motion to approve was made and seconded and approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Next Meeting

The Committee agreed that the next Transportation Committee meeting will be Friday, July 23 at 10:30 AM via Zoom.

Adjournment

At 11:34AM Dan asked for and received a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously via roll call vote.