



Town of Sudbury

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

Sudbury Transportation Committee

Minutes

Friday, October 6, 2023

10:30 AM

Via Town Zoom Conference Call

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Alice Sapienza, Debra Galloway, Bob Lieberman and Bessie Struck

Advisory Group Present: Dani- Marini King Town of Sudbury Sustainability Coordinator

Advisory Group Absent: Martha Welsh, Dan Hason, Chief Scott Nix, Carmine Gentile, Silvia Nersessian and Mary Warzynski

Guests: Ana Cristina Oliveira, Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV), Linda Faust and Kay Bell

Confirmation of Quorum: The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, Dan Carty as Chair convened the meeting at 10:30 AM. Dan Carty made an announcement that this was a public meeting, and the meeting was being broadcast live via Zoom and recorded by Sudbury TV. He took roll call, noted a quorum was present, and announced that he was making Debra co-host of the Zoom session.

Selection of Clerk: Bob volunteered to take meeting minutes.

Acton Items: Dan summarized the major topics for today's discussion and noted the following would be addressed (not necessarily in the order listed):

- Uber Survey
- Taxi survey results
- Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) upcoming meeting of October 11th
- Metro West Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) medical shuttle meeting October 17th
- Outreach initiatives
- Meeting with Acton October 13th Mass Development Grant
- TMA as a concept
- Review minutes

Dan began the meeting by mentioning that the scheduled meeting with the MAPC was not deemed to be a meeting of the entire Transportation Committee and therefore was not posted on the Town

website. Alice mentioned that she had trouble finding information on subsidized rides on the website which will need to be investigated. Debra will update the transportation flyer and distribute it to the faith communities and Dan will follow up concerning a possible meeting with the Town Manager and leaving flyers at the town meeting check in table. Bessie mentioned that she will work on distributing the same flyer to residents at the Longfellow Glen apartments.

Acton Mass Development Taxi Grant: Alice began a conversation concerning a Mass Development Taxi grant that the town of Acton has received in the amount of \$80,000. They have asked Alice to meet with Julie Pierce in town planning to discuss policies and procedures. Ironically with staff turnover they have only spent approximately \$10,000 to date and the funding is due to expire in December of this year. Alice will look into when our funding ends

MAPC Meeting: The upcoming meeting on October 11th will address the Town of Salem “Skipper” program utilizing technology from VIA as well as the Town of Newton. This is a Q &A that will help us better understand the VIA concept and how that might fit into our portfolio of transportation needs and services and an opportunity to partner with Wayland and Weston.

MWRTA Meeting: On October 17 there will be a meeting to discuss submitting a Community Connections grant. Dan shared an MWRTA handout concerning this proposed shuttle, which now serves Framingham, Natick, and Wellesley. Jim Nee, administrator of the MWRTA, has proposed a Boston hospital shuttle dedicated to Sudbury, Wayland, and Weston. Weston and Wayland have confirmed a verbal interest and need to investigate 1) how long a person might be on the shuttle and 2) wait times. Alice noted that a possible TNC backup program might be useful for the towns involved.

Taxi Survey Discussion: Dan shared the results of the survey and Alice led the discussion. There were 40 respondents noting what worked well, what they would like to see changed and any additional comments. A question was raised concerning rider’s cell phone numbers and Ana Cristina confirmed that Crosstown Connect does in fact give the Taxi companies the riders’ cell phone numbers.

Awareness/Outreach Campaign: Ana Cristina and Bessie met with the Assistant Manager at the Longfellow Glen apartments. They shared information on vans, taxis and Uber services and they will distribute flyers under each of the 120 apartment doors in the complex. Other community developments identified for this communication campaign include Cold Brook Crossing, Musketahquid, and Frost Farm, as well as information to the Sudbury Housing Authority and Housing Trust. We will also look into the possibility of including the flyer in a Town mailing and utilizing the Goodnow library. The new brochure will be distributed throughout the faith communities. There remains a group of individuals in the community that don’t avail themselves of some of the locations mentioned above and we still need to explore opportunities to reach out to them with this information. Perhaps the older population at the Senior Center, Veterans Affairs, the Housing Authority and the Commission on Disabilities are sites for communication. It was suggested that this issue be vetted through the Select Board for guidance.

Other Items: The discussion then turned to the top five goals of the Select Board and Bob asked about the fact that transportation was not amongst those identified. Goals include 1) Development of a long term comprehensive plan and manage the operating and capital budgets, 2) staffing needs,

3) MBTA Community Housing, 4) Economic development and 5) Determine funding options for the construction of phase 3 of the Bruce Freeman Rail trail. As the conversation started to veer off it was noted that the Select Board remains focused and committed to the transportation needs of the residents of Sudbury.

Minutes: The minutes of September 22 were reviewed. Alice moved to approve with recommendations noted; Debra Galloway seconded the move; approval on roll call was unanimous.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Friday, October 27th, at 10:30 AM by Zoom.

Adjournment: Debra moved to adjourn this meeting, Alice seconded, approval on roll call was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 AM.