

**Transit Plus Advisory Council
June 21, 2022 Minutes**

PLACE: Microsoft Teams Meeting

PRESENT: Jim Bahneman - Chair, Gerald Balezentis, Grace Graves, Laurel Henschel, Danita Jackson, Mae Wingo

ABSENT: Arlene Washington - Vice-Chair, David Buck, Annie Johnson, Nilima Mehra, Marcia Perkins, Jeanette Williams

GUESTS: Kevin Meyers – Guest; Paul Sanfelippo – American United; Morgan Mc Clelland - First Transit; Tracy Harrington – Transit Express; Chris Fox, Paula Schultz, and Lisa Walters - Transit Plus; Isabel Sanchez – Public Ally

CALL TO ORDER:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the May 17, 2022 meeting were approved.

COMMITTEES:

Driver/Reservationist Recognition Committee: no report.

Membership Committee: no report

Public Relations Committee: David Buck provided his report to Lisa Walters prior to the start of the meeting as he was not able to attend the meeting today. David reported that the Milwaukee County mask mandate is still in effect. Soon children will be able to be vaccinated. He also advised that Able, Inc. will have audio information for Summerfest on their web site. The Summerfest app can be downloaded.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Milwaukee County Mask Mandate: Chris Fox reported that masks are still required on buses and in all MCTS and Milwaukee County buildings due to an increase in COVID cases in Milwaukee County.

In-Person Eligibility Assessments: Chris Fox reported that in-person assessments resumed on May 16th. They are running smoothly except for last Monday when we had to cancel due to air conditioning issues in our building.

NEW BUSINESS:

Summerfest: Chris Fox reported that Transit Plus is providing rides to Summerfest. The pick-up and drop off area is at the North Gate on Harbor Drive. This is the same location we

have used in the past. There will be a picnic table, tent, and porta-potties there. Summerfest starts this Thursday and will run for three weekends. Summerfest will run school bus shuttles from some Park N Ride lots. They will have an accessible vehicle that can be dispatched. Summerfest shuttle rides are \$15.00 round trip.

MOBILITY MANAGEMENT REPORT: Paula Schultz reported that she and Fran are starting to work on the 5310 Grant. This grant supports mobility management for seniors and disabled persons so that they can participate in their community. Mobility Management will be filming a video next week. ADA training for new bus operators will also be held next week. Senior Fest will be held at Summerfest on July 7, 2022. Travel Training is busy.

CARRIER REPORTS:

American United: Paul Sanfelippo reported that they are waiting to hear where taxi service will be located at Summerfest. American United has new software for credentialing and vehicle inspections. They also have new graphics on cabs. The 2022 decal packages have smaller graphics. Colors are white, black and silver. The City of Milwaukee requires that graphics be 5" or larger. Grace Graves thanked Denise Jones at American United for helping her set up a private ride in an accessible taxi to go to the hospital in Menomonee Falls which is outside of the Transit Plus service area. Kim the driver was very careful. Kevin Meyers also mentioned that he went to Froedert recently and that the driver did a very good job finding their way around the campus and finding him. Grace Graves mentioned that Froedert has maps. Paul stated he would try to match Froedert's map with their gps system.

Transit Express: Tracy Harrington reported that they have a class of 5 new drivers about to finish up. They have 3 in the classroom and another class coming up. This will be very helpful. They lost 2 more vans due to other drivers driving recklessly. They are reminding drivers to stay hydrated and providing bottled water. It is difficult to keep vans cool now due to the doors frequently being opened so that the ramp can come down. Please be patient.

First Transit: Morgen McClelland reported that they just finished a class with 12 trainees. They are holding classes every other week. They have the right number of drivers now and are trying to stay ahead of demand. They have gone from 65% of pre-COVID service to 85% of pre-COVID service. They have lost a lot of people in the last 2 years. Vehicles are running well.

TRANSIT PLUS: Chris Fox reported that the Service Infraction module has been installed and has been used to send warning letters out. We are making slight adjustments to the No-Show policy so that it works better with the software. Clients who attempt to change their behavior and have months with a clean record will have less severe sanctions than those who continue to exceed the threshold every month. A written copy of the policy will be provided to TPAC next month. Ridership increased slightly again in May. There were 28,423 trips provided. This was a new high since February of 2020.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Danita Jackson stated that she did not believe that riders should be held responsible for no-shows if the warning letter is not in a format they can read.

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