

Spokane Transit Authority  
1230 West Boone Avenue  
Spokane, Washington 99201-2686  
(509) 325-6000

## **CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes for February 8, 2012  
Southside Conference Room

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Fyrne Bemiller  
Susanne Croft  
Victor Frazier  
Resa Hayes  
Ted Horobiowski  
Dean Lynch  
Fran Papenleur  
Philip Rudy  
Brenda Smits, Chair

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Steve Blaska, Director of Operations  
E. Susan Meyer, CEO  
Karl Otterstrom, Director of Planning  
Charlie Phillips, Maintenance Analyst

### **GUESTS PRESENT**

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Will Flanigan  
Charles Hansen  
Margaret Jones  
Larry Luton, resigned via e-mail 2/1/12

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Ms. Smits called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. and conducted roll call.

#### **2. MINUTES OF THE CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Corrections or Approval**

a. Ms. Smits asked the Committee to address the meeting minutes of January 11, 2012.

**Mr. Lynch made a motion to approve the minutes and Ms. Hayes seconded and minutes were approved unanimously.**

#### **3. PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS**

There were no public expressions.

#### **4. NEW COMMITTEE STRUCTURE**

Ms. Meyer said that the Board Operations Committee recommended that STA retain the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) with any member that wishes to continue participating, along with any interested citizen members of the Operations & Customer Service Committee. There will be a discussion of how this committee might look in the new governance make up. The topics and frequency of meetings will be determined. Topics would be less focused on a project basis, but could possibly involve items such as the budget. Ms. Meyer said the Board Operations Committee agrees that the core function of the CAC is central to community outreach. The Operations & Customer Service Committee does not fit the new model because it has Board members, Labor members and Citizen members.

Ms. Papenleur, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Bemiller, Mr. Frazier, Ms. Smits and Mr. Rudy would like to remain on the committee. Ms. Croft said she was grateful for the opportunity, but will be resigning.

Mr. Lynch asked about terms on the committee. Ms. Meyer said it is good for a healthy organization to have some turnover. Mr. Rudy mentioned it is a balance; due to attrition and term limits.

Ms. Hayes asked about the bus pass and the \$15 stipend. Ms. Meyer said if a committee member continues their participation in the CAC, those items would most likely remain.

**5. CONGRATULATIONS ON COMPLETION OF SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT**

Mr. Blaska congratulated and thanked the Committee on completion of the Sustainability Policy that was adopted by the Board. The policy will be in the Comprehensive Plan when it is updated in the next 10-12 weeks. Certificates were handed out to the members for their service and dedication to public transportation.

Committee Members expressed their reflections while working on the fare and sustainability projects; appreciative of Mr. Blaska and staff, getting to know the other members, learning a lot about sustainability, Spokane Transit and the things Spokane Transit is already doing to be sustainable.

**6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- a) Ms. Croft mentioned that tying route # 43 to route # 29 was great. She suggested spreading the word on the Riverpoint campus.
- b) Ms. Bemiller advised that Ms. Jones is out of town until April.
- c) Ms. Meyer said that STA is working very hard to build positive visibility based on performance around the State. Ms. Meyer was appointed to the Governor's Task Force representing transit. Currently Ms. Meyer is the President of the Washington State Transit Association. Ms. Meyer mentioned that she has been asked to submit any amendments to the transit bill that is part of the reauthorization. Ms. Meyer will be speaking to a small forum of general managers from around the United States to talk about the future of transit and will make a presentation regarding the Central City Transit Plan. The mode is a modern electric trolley bus that looks and acts like a streetcar. Ms. Croft mentioned that there is an incentive in place to support high density housing about one half mile out from the core of downtown. Ms. Croft said that Skip Chilberg is working on legislation to create a State Bank which will provide options for financing for public infrastructure at lower rates.
- d) Ms. Hayes asked about the location of the Board meetings. Ms. Meyer said they are looking at costs and other options available such as streaming live and on the website and returning to the STA Boardroom facility.
- e) Mr. Horobiowski mentioned that the Vehicle Maintenance conference will be in Seattle in March. The keynote speaker this year will be a representative from the Clean Energy Company. The Clean Energy Company is very aggressive in Compressed Natural Gases.
- f) Mr. Frazier mentioned the concerts in Audubon Park this summer: July 5<sup>th</sup> – Air National Guard Band (Show band with guitar & bass), July 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> (Spokane Jazz Orchestra and Six Foot Swing) and August 9<sup>th</sup> (Naomi Zantello with Men of Rhythm).

**7. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

- a) New Committee Structure
- b) 2011 Year End Performance
- c) Assessment of Compressed Natural Gases

Mr. Frazier will chair the next meeting as Ms. Smits will be on vacation.  
The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 14, 2012 – 5:00 p.m. (Regular Meeting) – Spokane Transit, Southside Conference Room.

**8. ADJOURN**

With there being no further business to come before the Committee, Ms. Smits adjourned the meeting at 6:30 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

Merilee Robar  
Executive Assistant