

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

CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes for May 11, 2011

Southside Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT

Susanne Croft
Will Flanigan
Victor Frazier
Charles Hansen
Ted Horobiowski
Larry Luton
Fran Papenleur
Brenda Smits, Chair

STAFF PRESENT

Steve Blaska, Director of Operations
Charlie Phillips, Maintenance Analyst
Naomi Zantello, Executive Assistant

GUESTS PRESENT

None

MEMBERS ABSENT

Fyrne Bemiller
Resa Hayes
Margaret Jones
Dean Lynch
Philip Rudy

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Ms. Smits called the meeting to order at 5:05 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 April 13, 2011.

The Committee approved the minutes by consensus.

3. PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS

Mr. Frazier said that he spoke with Ms. Bemiller and reported that her recovery following surgery is going very well.

Ms. Papenleur said during one of her morning bus rides on Route 22, a passenger left her lunch on the bus and the coach operator immediately noticed and returned it to the passenger in the Plaza.

Ms. Zantello announced that she has given her notice of resignation and her last day at STA will be Friday, June 3rd. Ms. Zantello will be relocating to the Seattle area with her family due to her husband's employment in Auburn, WA. She expressed her extreme gratitude for having had the opportunity to support and work with the Citizen Advisory Committee over the last four years.

Mr. Blaska shared two pictures sent by Dr. Rudy from his African safari vacation.

4. DIESEL VS. GAS

Mr. Blaska reported that fifteen Paratransit vans have exceeded the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) minimum life cycle and replacement vehicles are funded in the Capital Improvement Plan and the 2011 Budget. The vans are available through the Washington State Purchasing Cooperative Contract. The key decision is whether to purchase gasoline or diesel vehicles with the criteria for consideration being capital cost, employee and customer feedback, fuel costs, environmental considerations, and parts/labor costs.

V-10 gas has the advantage when considering the initial procurement cost, however, the historical cost favors diesel.

Mr. Frazier asked for clarification of the term “V-10 gas”.

Mr. Blaska replied it is based on the size of the V-10 engine.

Mr. Blaska reviewed each of the criteria’s key components and concluded that the new diesel technology provides a quality customer and employee experience while realizing significant cost and environmental benefits. These advantages far outweigh the known marginal increase in capital cost and maintenance costs. These costs are expected to be more than recovered over the life of the fleet. *For ease of reference, please refer to the full presentation included in the May 11, 2011 meeting packet.*

5. SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

a.) Program Development

The Committee held another in-depth work session which entailed review of their notes from previous work sessions, in addition to review of the preliminary Sustainability Recommendation as presented to the Board in September, 2010, and a draft of the final Sustainability program which will be incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan for Public Transportation upon final completion and approval by the Board.

It is likely that the June CAC meeting will be the final work session in preparation for presentation of the Sustainability program to the Board at their September 2011 meeting.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

There was no general business at this time.

7. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 8, 2011 – 5:00 p.m. (Regular Meeting) – Spokane Transit, Southside Conference Room.

8. ADJOURN

With there being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi Zantello
Executive Assistant