



Pierce Transit
Community Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG)
Virtual Meeting via Zoom/phone
Minutes – April 22, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:32 PM.

ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE

CTAG Members Present: Don Green, Blake Geyen, Linda Moran, Deirdre Maxwell, Paul Crandall, Cody Bakken, Denise Edington, Antoinette Craig

Absent: Barbara Rhoades

Pierce Transit Employees Present: Ryan Wheaton (Planning & Community Development Executive Director), Penny Grellier (Community Development Administrator)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from March 2021 were reviewed and approved (Cody moved, Antoinette seconded).

CTAG MEMBERS COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cody (BSB Review): Cody represents CTAG on the team reviewing the bus stops being considered for removal. During the meeting, stops were considered in turn and the comments from the community were read out and reviewed. Decisions will be made based upon safety, need and proximity to public resources (clinics, libraries, stores). Also considering accessibility. More meetings in early May to finish review.

Don (CEO Recruitment Committee): a group consisting of Board members, staff and Don as CTAG representative helped write a job description for the next CEO. The recruitment firm is casting a wide net to find a person with experience managing a transit agency similar in size and scope to Pierce Transit. Hiring decision to be made in June.

A new CTAG representative is needed for the BRT Community Committee as Cody has a scheduling conflict. Deirdre volunteered; Penny to share her contact information with Alex Alderman.

PUBLIC COMMENT

none

DISCUSSION ITEMS

CEO Recruitment (Don Green) see update under Committee Reports

Transforming Local Transit including Ballot Measure (Ryan Wheaton)

Ryan presented an abbreviated version of a slide show he prepared for the Board at their recent special meeting. It covered the benefits to our system should a ballot measure be introduced and pass to increase sales tax to .9% (currently .6%). Board is considering the ballot measure right now and will need to give their approval to move it forward. Ryan shared the system changes that could results (based on Board priorities) which include fare-free trips for seniors and youth, new routes, more frequent service, late-night service. CTAG members shared their thoughts about how late-night service would be of great benefit to allow people to attend arts & entertainment events, as well as get home from those events, in the evening hours.

MEMBER DELIBERATION

Antoinette shared concerns about mask wearing:

- She has seen drivers improperly wearing their masks (nose out, mask under chin) and asks if they can be reminded that they are mentors to the public and need to model proper mask wearing behavior.
- Even if an operator is on an empty bus, the air is still circulating and not wearing a mask at that time can also release respiratory droplets into the air.
- She also noticed some riders being asked to put their mask on and others not being asked.
- She suggested all windows be opened on all buses when weather allows, to increase ventilation on board.

Penny will pass this information on to Dena Withrow in Operations.

PIERCE TRANSIT NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deirdre was asked to share her recent outreach experience at a community distribution event at STAR Center. She enjoyed it and would like to participate again. Penny shared a list of possible Farmers' Market dates with the group and asked that they consider volunteering to help.

In-person public meetings may begin again in September per Governor's guidelines. Hybrid option may continue. Group supported having a Zoom option going forward as some members cannot easily get to Pierce Transit base for meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:53PM

Submitted by:

Penny Grellier, Community Development Administrator

Approved by:

Don Green, Chair