

CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

THURSDAY, January 8, 2015
RTA Board Room
1240 West 6th Street
Cleveland, OH 44113
8:30 A.M.

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:38am

The following members were present for the meeting: Steve Albro, David Applefeld, Karl Benz, Johnny Brewington, Crystal Guevarez, Brooke Deines, Aldo Filippelli, Marie Fratus, Martin Golob, Don Hill, Ron Jackson, John McGovern, Edward Opett, Donna Prease, Joseph Sopko, Tyler Stillings, Marjorie Sutton, Jessica Whale, and George Zeller

There were no minutes for the month of December due to the joint luncheon

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT, Joseph Calabrese, General Manager and CEO

- Ridership: November
 - Average daily up 1.5%
 - YTD down 0.59%
- Sales Tax: December
 - Up 9.8% from 2013
 - Up 7.3 from budget
- 2014 Final
 - Up 3.95% better than 2013 actual
 - Up 1.5% better than the 2014 budget
- There have been complaints of sign pollution on Clifton Blvd – these are mandated signs by ODOT however RTA is looking into these complaints
- The Clifton (Cleveland State Line #55) Ribbon cutting took place on December 8. A huge thank you to Mayor Clough and Marisol Simone. Many CAB members attended.
- Work continues and progresses at the Little Italy and Lee/Van Aken stations.
- There is a presentation coming (date to be announced) to the Board of Trustees regarding the E 79th Street station, Board committee meeting of January 6 was canceled due to scheduling conflicts. There is continued work with the city and community to determine how to increase future density around the station.
- State grant awarded to replace four of eight trolleys with new trolleys that look similar to existing. The size will be changing, from 30 feet to 35 feet.
- Student advisory council – first meeting the end of this month. The Council will be comprised of major colleges, high school and elementary students – 22 % of RTA riders are students. The plan is to meet three times per year. The objective is to determine what can RTA do to help promote ridership and keep the current riders happy, and encourage better behavior
- RTA has requested assistance from the ADA Committee to look at the existing paratransit application to make revisions to the application including qualifications, fares and benefits to PCA's.
- There was all night rail service on New Years' Eve. Although this was the second year offered ridership was light and it may be considered again next year.
- Joe will continue to mail out info regarding advocacy efforts
- Suggestion for CAB to create an Advocacy Committee to focus on a recent ODOT study with the question of what will be included in the budget to address identified needs and

recommendations. RTA wants a letter signed by riders and mailed to the Governor and the head of ODOT.

- Mayor Clough has been reelected to the Board to serve a term to expire on March 2018
- Continued discussions with Greyhound and Amtrak regarding an intermodal center with RTA connectivity
- Jan 20 the Board commission will be in for further discussions regarding Public Square. Public Square is scheduled to close around February 2. Routing and stops are currently being finalized. Handouts and presentations are being created.
- Lee Shaker station discussions still scheduled, to take place prior to the Jan 20 meeting.
- On February 3 there will be discussions to rebuild the Brookpark station. The design was completed about three years ago. Bids are due this month since funding is needed for the project.
- According to Joe, the bad weather is not causing many delays – “things are going pretty well”.
- Ronny Anderson has joined leadership with the ATU

NEW BUSINESS, Joel Freilich, Acting Director of Service Management

- Powerpoint presentation to show RTA's Public Square plan as of January 6, 2015; hope to have this plan confirmed by January 20, 2015
- “While” Public Square is being transformed to a park
- During construction it will be a challenge
- An “enormous” communication system will be on site at “closed” stops

Anthony Garofoli, Executive Director of Internal Audit

- 2015 Internal Audit plan – completing a risk assessment for every business unit and department within RTA and looking for feedback
- To integrate strategic plan into the audit plan

CAB CHAIR REPORT, New Business, John McGovern, CAB Chair

- Amending the Operating Guidelines specifically addressing attendance to Board meeting and Committee meetings
- John read Section 4 regarding committees
- George Zeller, Don Hill and Ed Opett all requested additional discussion
- Johnny Brewington, Steve Albro, Ed Opett & Marjorie Sutton agreed to work on the Operating Guidelines amendment
- Donaldson Hill & Jessica Whale have agreed to chair/begin the Advocacy Committee and state wide funding,

ADAC REPORT Ron Jackson, Committee Chair

There is no meeting scheduled during the month of January.

- Next meeting 2/19/15
- Chair Jackson submitted a letter to RTA Board of Trustees regarding Paratransit fares

TIAC REPORT Marjorie Sutton, Committee Chair

- Next meeting 2/06/15
- The January meeting was cancelled due to the holiday. As of 2015, there will no longer be a meeting held in January due to the date falling too close to the 1st of the year and low attendance.

COMMENTS by Martin Golob regarding the Appeals Board – if interested in being a part of that Board please contact Felicia Brooks-Williams

Jose Feliciano, Jr. introduced as the new CAB liaison.

Martin Golob made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Steve Albro all in favor

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55am

Next CAB meeting February 12, 2015
RTA Board Room
1240 West 6th Street
8:30 a.m.
<http://www.riderta.com/CAB>

John McGovern, Chair

Date

Marjorie Sutton, Secretary

Date