

CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

**Thursday October 8th, 2015
RTA Board Room
1240 West 6th Street
Cleveland, OH 44113
8:30 A.M.**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:33am

The members that were present were Steve Albro, David Applefeld, Karl Benz, Johnny Brewington, Marie Fratus, Donaldson Hill, Ron Jackson, Edward Opett, Donna Prease, Joseph Sopko, Marjorie Sutton, Jessica Whale, Andre White and George Zeller

Minutes will be presented next month due to technology issues

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

- Ridership on the CSU line #55 is up 25%
- YTD – Up 5.5% ahead of 2014 and Up 4.7% above Budget
- Congratulations goes out to Board of Trustees member Valarie J. McCall as she was elected as Chair of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) and received the NOACA “Walter F. Ehrnfelt Award.
- The Rail Users’ Network (R.U.N.) conference was a success. 35 – 40 people attended and toured E55th and Shaker Square stations. On Sunday the group rode the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad to Akron. See Steve Albro for additional information
- RTA has received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 25th consecutive year
- Dr. Floun’say Caver received from Cleveland State University Levin College of Urban Affairs the 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award.
- Infrastructure:
 - E. 34th Street – the design agreement has been approved by the Board of Transportation (BOT) on 8/18.
 - Little Italy Station – successfully opened on 8/11
 - Lee Van Aken – construction is ongoing - there is a possibility of it opening in phases.
 - Brookpark - construction ongoing
 - E. 116th Station - design ongoing - presentation to Board upcoming. Possibility of St. Luke's foundation participating in a funding alternative.
 - Gillig CNG Buses - CNG station certified. 60 buses are now on the road. There are 30 additional buses being prepared. Trolleys go on line later in month
- Upcoming Service updates:
 - 10/5 – 10/17 for 14 days the Waterfront line will be down for grade crossing and track replacement – service to be replaced with the 67R buses
 - 10/11 for 19 days the Red Line between Puritas and the Airport will be down for the Brookpark Station demolition and constructions. Service to be replaced with the 66R buses.
 - 10/24 & 10/25 for two days the Waterfront Line and possibly the Blue/Green lines will be down to finish grade crossing and the track work.
 - 11/8 – 11/21 for 14 days the Red Line between Triskett and West Blvd for track work between the “S” curve & W 117th. 66R buses to bridge the gap between Triskett and West Blvd, also to serve the 117th station on the route.
 - 11/21 & 22 for two days the Blue Line will be shut down east of Shaker Square for continue construction on the Lee Van Aken station. The 67R will replace trains.
- There was a very positive meeting regarding the funding for the trolley's will run out in the fall. There are recommendations to cut the costs from \$1.2 million to \$800,000. Those recommendations include:
 - Discontinue the L Line after September 7th.
 - Discontinue the 9/12 (Muni lot to Chester Ave)
 - No change to the “C” Line

- There is a question as to whether the “C” Line can be extended to the East Bank of the Flats
- There have been 13 hiring events since May 2015. Over 500 people attended with over 180 interviewed. Two additional hiring events to be held on October 17 and November 14.
- RTA Family Day was held on September 12. Over 130 people attended and there were 25 business partners.
- RTA’s Annual Golf Outing was held on August 15th
- There was a reception held on September 29th regarding the “Art along the Rail”. It was noted that funding will come from NOACA and the Cleveland Foundation. There will be ongoing fundraising in the future.
- Notre Dame College will begin to participate in the "U Pass"" program. The school will subsidize at \$25 per month and RTA to match
- NOACA gave commuter choice awards to:
 - GOLD: CWRU and the NASA Glenn Research Center
 - SILVER: University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Eaton Corporation and Tucker Ellis
 - BRONZE: Squire Patton Boggs, Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS)
 - MOST IMPROVED: CWRU
- We have been notified that the Auditor of State will be conducting a 2015 audit
- RTA is looking into an E-Cigarettes policy
- The Union has voted NO to a tentative agreement with vote two scheduled for next week
- The Employee Giving Campaign will run for six weeks, from October 12 – November 20. The goal is \$150,000 and 50% employee participation.

CAB CHAIR REPORT, New Business, Don Hill, CAB Chair

ADA COMMITTEE REPORT, Ron Jackson, Committee Chair
Next ADA Committee meeting 11/19/15

TIAC REPORT, Marjorie Sutton, Committee Chair
Next meeting November 6, 2015

ADVOCACY REPORT, Don Hill & Jessica Whale Co-Committee Chair

- There have been several ideas mentioned regarding new funding possibilities

 Next Meeting TBA

PUBLIC COMMENTS - none

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52am

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