

**Mason County Transportation Advisory Board
November 26, 2013
Minutes**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Introductions were made: In attendance were John Piety, Josiah Rowell, Lauren Gessler, Glen Fourre, Steven Van Denver, Brad Patterson, Jeri Wood, Andrea Billingsly and Pamela Hillstrom.

Absent: Gene Currier, Kevin Frankeberger, PH.D, John Calabrese, & Christina McClathey.

Minutes: Steve made a motion to approve the October 22, 2013 minutes; Josiah seconded. The minutes were approved.

Correspondence: None

Public Comment: None

Old Business -

By-Laws Updates: Jeri, Josiah and Brad met this afternoon. All comments that were made previously by Advisory Board members were addressed. Steve, Lauren, Josiah, Brad and Jeri will meet again in December and it is planned to take the revised By-Laws to the Authority Board in February for approval. The By-Laws are a work in progress and it is recommended a major rewrite to be done later in 2014.

Bus Ad's Update: Tabled for additional recommendations from Brad.

Possible Survey Update: No discussion.

Election of Officers: John nominated Lauren Gessler for Chair, Steve seconded the motion; Lauren nominated Steve Van Denver for Vice-Chair and John seconded the motion; and John nominated Josiah Rowell for Secretary and Steve seconded the motion. There were no further nominations. Glen moved that we approve these nominations for office by consensus rather than do a secret ballot, Pam seconded the motion. Due to no objection motion passed. Officers for 2014 will be the following:

Chair – Lauren Gessler
Vice-Chair – Steve Van Denver
Secretary – Josiah Rowel

Discussion on Rapid Response Team: Tabled until January.

Open Meetings Compliance: A brief discussion took place on a statement sent out by attorney Rob Johnson about Open Meeting Compliance.

New Business:

Vote on Continuing Board Members: John Piety, Glen Fourre, Lauren Gessler and Pamela Hillstrom filled out an application to continue on the Advisory Board. Steve made a motion to take these names to the Authority Board for approval. Josiah seconded the motion. It was approved.

Discussion on Being an Effective Board Member: Lauren and Steve picked up information on “Effective Advisory Board Members” and said these documents are conversation pieces. There was discussion about absenteeism and how to address this issue in the future. Our policy states that any member that has 2 unexcused absences can be removed from the board. It was suggested that in the event of unexcused absences that a letter be written to the board member so they have the opportunity to remedy the situation.

There was a suggestion to recommend four names for Honorary Membership. Discussion took place about definition of Honorary and Associate Membership and criteria for both. It was recommended that Associate Membership be eliminated because our meetings are open to the public and the public has the opportunity to participate in any discussion. No action was taken on either issue.

General Manager’s Report: Brad reported this was the first year MTA participated in Fantasy Forest and they decorated a live tree that was donated by Olsen Furniture. Their theme was “Reuse, Recycle, and Rejoice.” Their tree received the People’s Choice award and was auctioned off for the 3rd highest amount at \$1,300.

Brad said that MTA plans on recognizing volunteers in April and would include Advisory Board Members that are stepping down. Discussion took place on recognizing Advisory Board Members that aren’t reapplying and we agreed that we would like to recognize them separately at the Advisory Board Meeting in January.

Brad also announced MTA will be ordering 2 new buses.

Operations Manager’s Report: Brad reported ridership is up 1% over last year.

Good of the Order: Steve shared that Bob’s Tavern organizes a toy drive that brings in approximately \$20,000 in toys for the disadvantaged youth of Mason County. In the past they would organize the donations in the Armory. He suggested that when the Transit Community Center is complete that they be allowed to use the facility in the future for this worthwhile volunteer effort.

Glen said all the comments he hears on the transit bus drivers in the community are all positive.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 17, 2013
MTA/MCTAB Joint Meeting @ 5:30 p.m.
Mason Transit Business Office
790 E Johns Prairie Road, Shelton, WA