

NORTH WEST TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES

March 11, 2009

PRESENT: Michael Cormier, Chair  
John Merrick, Vice-Chair  
William Chaffey  
Philip Cox  
Ian MacLaine  
Stephen Scott  
Gunther Seyffarth  
Councillor Brad Johns

ABSENT: Terry Churney (regrets)

STAFF: Ms. Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Michael Cormier, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in Boardroom #1, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Sackville Planning Office, 636 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - February 11, 2009**

Deferred to the April meeting as a hard copy was not provided.

**3. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF BUSINESS AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS**

**Deletions:**

- 4.1.3 Route 80 - Request for Earlier Start Time
- 6.3.1 Ms. Patricia Soanes, General Manager, Metro Transit
- 7.1 Passenger Overloads
- 7.3 Ian MacLaine

**MOVED BY Mr. Stephen Scott, seconded by Mr. John Merrick that the agenda, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES**

**4.1.1 Letter to Wal-Mart re: Bus Shelter**

A response was received from Wal-Mart and forwarded to Metro Transit staff. Staff requested to provide an update for the April meeting.

**4.1.2 GPS Update**

Mr. Philip Herritt, Acting Supervisor, AVL Project, Metro Transit, has declined the Committee's invitation to present at this time as there is no further public information available in regard to the AVL/GPS technology.

**4.1.3 Route 80 - Request for Earlier Start Time**

Deferred to the April meeting as staff were not in attendance.

**4.1.4 Cobequid Terminal - Route 89 Concerns**

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An e-mail response from Metro Transit staff was included in the agenda packages. Commuters are encouraged to report concerns with the Route 89 so that the issue may be tracked.

**4.1.5 List of Reports Requested by North West Transit Advisory Committee**

The Legislative Assistant advised that the two reports requested by motion were received. Further detailed review of past minutes would be required in regard to outstanding requests.

**5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS**

**5.1 2007 Ridership Analysis**

- A copy of the data prepared by Mr. William Chaffey was before the Committee.

**MOVED BY Mr. Phil Cox, seconded by Mr. Stephen Scott that the North West Transit Advisory Committee forward the 2007 Ridership Analysis information to the North West Community Council as an Information Report. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

**6.1 Correspondence - None**

**6.2 Petitions - None**

**6.3 Delegations**

**6.3.1 Ms. Patricia Soanes, General Manager, Metro Transit**

This item was deleted during the approval of the agenda as staff were not in attendance.

**7. REPORTS**

**7.1 Passenger Overloads**

An e-mail from Metro Transit staff was included in the agenda package. Matter deferred to the April meeting as staff were not in attendance.

**7.2 Bedford Visioning**

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Mr. Merrick advised that he had attended a meeting with Mr. David McCusker and Mr. Brian Taylor and Consultant in regard to the Harbour Link Terminals. The Consultants were provided Information for consideration.

Councillor Johns entered the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Mr. Merrick noted that the Transportation Sub-Committee of Bedford Visioning would be meeting with Design and Engineering Consultants, hired by HRM, within the next ten (10) days.

Councillor Johns advised that he had recently attended the Urban Transportation Conference in Toronto, Ontario and heard Mr. Dave McCusker's, Manager, Regional Transportation, presentation on the Harbour Ferry concept. Previous reports in regard to the fare for the Harbour Ferry indicated that the public was not prepared to pay more than \$5 - \$7 per trip. Regional Council will be reviewing the Harbour Ferry matter on March 31<sup>st</sup>. In order for HRM to participate in the Federal Stimulus package, the money must be committed by the year 2010, however; there are other concerns such as the commitment to provide more rural transit routes which also have to be addressed. The new transit garage, to be constructed in the Ragged Lake area, will be open by 2010. Approximately \$155 million will be spent on transit over the next five years according to the Five Year Transit Plan.

**7.3            Ian MacLaine**

Deferred to the April meeting as Mr. MacLaine was not in attendance.

**8.            ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

**9.            NEXT MEETING DATE - Wednesday, April 8, 2009**

The following items were requested to be added to the April agenda:

- Transit Survey Results - Mr. Phil Cox
- Highway 101 Interchange Update - Mr. Phil Cox

**10.           ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Chris Newson  
Legislative Assistant