

NORTH WEST TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

September 12, 2007

PRESENT: Mr. William Chaffey, Vice-Chair
Mr. Terry Churney
Ms. Angela Miller
Mr. Gunther Seyffarth
Mr. Steve Scott

REGRETS: Mr. Phil Cox, Chair
Mr. John Merrick
Councillor Brad Johns

STAFF: Ms, Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk
Ms. Melody Campbell, Legislative Assistant

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1. CALL TO ORDER/ INTRODUCTION

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm in Boardroom #1, Sackville Planning Office, 1st Floor, 636 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville.

2. APPROVAL OF ORDER OF BUSINESS AND ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

Additions:

- 8.1 Meeting Process & Staff Reports - Ms. Gibson
- 8.2 New Buses
- 8.3 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - June 13, 2007

Changes:

Page 3: 4.1.1 space will be made available for buses to turn *on RIM property*.

Page 4: 4.1.2 Change "travel" to "treadle".

Page 6: 6.1 Change "gage" to "gauge"

MOVED BY Mr. Scott seconded by Mr. Seyffarth that the minutes of June 10, 2007, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

4.1 STATUS SHEET

4.1.1 Route 88 RIM Development

No discussion, defer to October meeting.

4.1.2 Parking at Sackville Bus Terminal

No discussion, defer to October meeting.

4.1.3 Fast Ferry

Mr. McCusker provided a presentation at the previous meeting. The Committee requested

that recommendations be discussed at the September meeting.

Mr. Scott discussed that growth in the area is substantial. Bedford South has an additional 2000 property lots along with substantial growth in Bedford West. RIM will be adding 600 jobs to the area in the next year to year and a half. This future growth will increase the need for transportation into the City core. Ferry service from Bedford could provide for this need.

Mr. Seyffarth stated he would like to have other transit issues resolved before the fast ferry is implemented. The service should be considered in the future.

Mr. Churney added that at the meeting of June 10th, information was supplied by transit staff that upon budget review and approval, there is a plan for 80 new buses in the next three years. These buses could, once determined where they will be added, provide improvement in services. Mr. Churney also added that an option could be using smaller buses as feeders to get passengers to the Link terminal.

MOVED by Mr. Scott, seconded by Ms. Miller that further discussion of the Fast Ferry issue be deferred to the next scheduled meeting. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

6. REPORTS

6.1 Adult Bus Passes

Mr. Chaffey presented a chart indicating that the purchase of adult bus passes has increased due to the income tax credit issued.

6.2 Passenger Counts

Mr. Chaffey presented information from Mr. Reage on the feasibility of treadle mats for passenger counts. It was reported that treadle mats would not be a viable option due to corrosion. There are other types of counters but they are very expensive and are not currently budgeted. Mr. Churney added that due to salt corrosion and overcrowding, treadle mats may not be the best option.

7. CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Meeting Procedures and Reports from Staff

Ms. Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk, discussed meeting procedure, written reports would be beneficial to the Committee. All motions that are passed requesting information should be returned to the Committee in the form of a Staff Report which would be written and provided by transit staff. The report would provide the Committee with official documentation that would be sent to North West Community Council and, if required, on to other Community Councils that could be affected by the same. Official reports would provide Committee members with information that would assist with work planning and future strategic initiatives. Reports from staff could also assist with timelines, assisting in terms of when items can be brought forward at a future date.

Ms. Gibson advised the Clerk's Office is responsible to hold the legislative process for the Halifax Regional Municipality and part of that mandate is to be a guardian of all reports for Committees, Community Council and Regional Council. As a Committee, the meeting procedures and staff reports will not only improve the function of the Committee, information will be properly recorded which could assist Committees affected by similar issues.

To assist with staff efficiency, Ms. Gibson also informed the Committee that meetings can be cancelled if there are very few items to be discussed. The items could be added to the next regular meeting.

Ms. Gibson will be meeting with staff, as well as meeting with other committees, to discuss process and reporting.

8.2 New Buses

Ms. Miller questioned of how many buses will be allocated to the North West districts. In response, staff advised during the June meeting , approximately 80 buses will be introduced according to the Three Year Transit Plan upon approval by Regional Council.

MOVED by Ms. Miller, seconded by Mr. Seyffarth, that staff provide a report on the number of buses anticipated for the North West Districts and what improved service this could provide. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.3 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Chaffey noted that their elections are normally held in September. Most Committee elections are held in November, Ms. Gibson advises she will check the Terms of Reference of the NWTAC and, if appropriate, would make changes to the Terms of Reference to

reflect November elections.

8.4 Reports to North West Community Council

All reports being sent to the North West Community Council should be signed by the Chair at City Hall. However, a signed copy could be accepted by email, fax or mail. The report could also be signed and sent by internal mail from the HRM Offices at 636 Sackville Drive. As another option, the Chair could send an email indicating that the Legislative Assistant sign the report on his/her behalf.

Mr. Chaffey requested an updated list of meeting dates of the NWCC and an updated list of NWTAC members. It was agreed this information will be provided to the Committee.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for October 10th at 7:00 pm. The Committee agreed to defer the following items: Development of Work Plan, Route 88 RIM Development, and Parking at Sackville Bus Terminal.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned a 8:38 pm.

Melody Campbell
Legislative Assistant