

NORTH WEST TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES

October 10, 2007

PRESENT: Mr. Philip Cox, Chair
Mr. John Merrick
Mr. William Chaffey
Ms. Angela Miller
Mr. Gunther Seyffarth
Mr. Steve Scott

REGRETS: Mr. Terry Churney
Councillor Brad Johns

STAFF: Mr. Dave Reage
Ms. Julia Horncastle, Legislative Assistant
Ms. Melody Campbell, Legislative Assistant

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1. **CALL TO ORDER/ INTRODUCTION**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm in Boardroom #1, Sackville Planning Office, 1st Floor, 636 Sackville Drive, Lower Sackville.

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

Additions:

1. Number 185 Route - Angela Miller

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 12, 2007**

Minutes approved with the following changes:

Changes:

1. Change treadle to treadle
3. Committee would make changes to the Terms of Reference. Changes to Terms of Reference will be sent to NWCC for approval.

MOVED BY Mr. Chaffey seconded by Mr. Seyffarth that the minutes of September 12, 2007, as amended, be approved. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

4.1 Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Scott nominates Mr. Cox as Chair. Mr. Cox accepted the nomination and position.

Mr. Chaffey nominates Mr. Merrick as Vice Chair. Mr. Merrick accepted the nomination and position.

Moved by Mr. Scott, seconded by Mr. Chaffey that the Terms of Reference be reviewed and necessary changes be forwarded to be changed to reflect November elections beginning in 2008.

4.2 **STATUS SHEET**

4.2.1 **Route 88 RIM Development**

Mr. Reage indicated that the date for Route 88 has been pushed forward to May 1st. New

drivers will be hired and trained by May 1st. Route 88 may not be extended, a new route may be added that would terminate at the Cobequid Terminal. It could possibly be a route travelling between Lacewood and Cobequid going through the Bedford Highway. It will be an extension of the 88 Route.

Growth is now being designed looking forward to the RIM Development. Further growth will be determined as developments are built.

4.2.2 Parking at Sackville Bus Terminal

Mr. Seyffarth inquired as to the number of handicapped parking spaces available at the Sackville Bus Terminal, indicating that he has had problems getting handicapped parking spots during the day. Mr. Reage indicated that site inspections had taken place, and no issues were reported regarding parking at the lot. The inspections noted that normally one or two handicapped parking spots were open. There are two handicapped spots in the area and this is compliant with the HRM By-law.

Mr. Cox is concerned that as ridership grows, contingency plans must be developed in order to ensure adequate parking. Mr. Reage added that this issue is currently being addressed.

Moved by Mr. Seyffarth, seconded by Mr. Cox that a request for a staff report be forwarded to North West Community Council requesting information in regard to the Sackville Bus Terminal Parking Lot:

- 1. Number of handicapped parking spaces;**
- 2. Overall number of parking spaces;**
- 3. Contingency plans regarding parking anticipating the growth in the area.**

4.2.3 Fast Ferry

This item has been deferred to an upcoming meeting.

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS - NONE

6. REPORTS

6.1 Update to New Bus Services for the North West Districts

Mr. Reage informed the Committee that there are plans for 25 new buses, 8 for growth and 17 are replacement buses.

Mr. Cox discussed Dartmouth Crossing and questioned how that will impact the bus

services once it is completed. Mr. Reage indicated that it will take up to four years to implement the services as it applies to Dartmouth Crossing and Burnside.

Mr. Reage discussed the need for HRM to hire and train new drivers. Most increases to Metro Transit Services are contingent on budget approval.

6.2 Sackville Park and Ride and Link Bus

Defer to an upcoming meeting

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Letter from Mr. Robert Wilde Regarding Transit Issues

The letter from Mr. Wilde was read to the Committee. The Committee agreed with the issues that were brought forward. Mr. Cox will reply to Mr. Wilde indicating the Committee's support on the issues. The removal of Route #84 at the bus stop close to the MacDonald Bridge on Barrington Street was the main concern.

Mr. Reage discussed the issues involved with the removal of the routes from the stop. Mr. Reage also indicated that buses are to stay on the right lane of the northbound lane and are not permitted to cross over into the left lane.

Moved by Mr. Merrick, seconded by Mr. Seyffarth that a request for a staff report be forwarded to North West Community Council requesting that staff remove the #84 and #85 service at the bus stop Barrington Street near side Artz Street North Bound at the start of the ramp to the MacDonald Bridge.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Number 185 Barrington Street

Ms. Miller brought forward an issue at the stop at Scotia Square in regard to passenger pick up of Routes 159 and 185 at same bus stop. She requested that each have its own pick up site due to the amount of people using the buses. Mr. Reage will look at space, he indicated that the site is constrained, with very few opportunities for expansion.

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be held on November 14, 2007 at 7:00 pm. Sackville Office, 636 Sackville Drive, Boardroom #1.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned a 8:58 pm.

Melody Campbell
Legislative Assistant