



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Public Transit Advisory Commission

Thursday, November 15, 2018
5:30 PM

Conference Room 1A
City Hall
701 E. Broadway

I. Call to Order

Kathy Lee called the meeting to order at 5:38 PM.

Present: 8 - Katherine Lee, Dawn Zeterberg, Diane Suhler, Rene Powell, Evonnia Woods, Ken Hammond, Heather Marriott and Blake Willoughby

Excused: 4 - Ann Anderson, Cheryl Price, Christiane Quinn and Alyce Turner

Absent: 1 - Mike Sokoff

II. Introductions

City Staff: Leah Christian (Transit & Parking Manager) and Melanie Abels (Sr. Administrative Assistant)

Members of the Public: Johnny Burkholder and mother (Columbia College Student) & Cynthia Gardner, interested citizen

III. Approval of Agenda

Dawn Zeterberg made a motion to approve the agenda with a second by Heather Marriott. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Blake Willoughby made a motion to approve October's minutes with a second by Ken Hammond. Vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Draft Minutes 101819

Attachments: [101818 Draft Minutes](#)

V. New Business

a. Transportation to PTAC Meetings

Discussion was had in regard to exploring different meeting times due to the hour cut in bus service. It was discussed that there are at least 4 commission members that would not be able to attend the meeting later due to work restraints and at least 5 members who utilize either para transit or fixed route system that would be unable to attend due to not being able to get home if an accomodation is not made. There is also the issue of the general public who utilize public transportation that would be unable to attend meetings if they choose due to not being able to get home because of the cut in service. Diane asked if Taxi Terrys could be utilized. Several members mentioned that service being far too expensive.

The commission needs to write a letter to City Council to request service be accomodated to get commission members and attending public home from meetings. There is a line item already in place that allows city transit to get members of the public to city council meetings which the PTAC could request piggybacking on.

Heather Marriott made a motion for Kathy to write a letter to Council requesting that transportation from PTAC meetings be included in the line item that is already in place that allows transportation to and from City Council meetings. Dawn Zeterberg seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

b. Debrief: PTAC Open House

Commission feels the Open House was successful and Ken Hammond mentioned that he feels it should be an annual meeting.

Rene felt that there should be separeate tables or comment cards so that everyone can be addressed. Kathy mentioned flyers should be posted on buses that advertise for PTAC meetings. Ken Hammond mentioned comment boxes being on the buses and in the Wabash Lobby as well.

AMMENDED MOTION: Ken Hammond made a motion to combine the previous motion as well as to inform Council about the Open House meeting turnout as well as the letter does not need PTAC approval to be sent. Heather Marriott seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

c. Debrief Pre-Council Transit Presentation

Leah attended a Pre-council Transit meeting for Council on November 5th where the emphasis was solely on Transit and budgeting issues. There will be a followup meeting on February 18th. Leah asked the commission if they had questions or ideas for resolutions to bring back to council for the February meeting. Heather, Rene and Cheryl were all in attendance and gave their impressions of how the meeting went. Rene felt the brunt of the negativity was directed toward para transit and feels that if the city is able to better the fixed route system to accommodate people with disabilities more effectively some of the pressure would be taken off of para transit and more people with disabilities who would normally schedule rides with para transit could ride the fixed route buses instead. Heather mentioned that the business community is starting to get behind public transit as a way for their employees/ customers to be able to get to work/ businesses. Paris Rd. and Discovery Parkway were brought up specifically. Heather feels working with local businesses would be beneficial.

Ken Hammond mentioned that he felt the city does not do well in advertising the system. He feels there needs to be a Public Transportation Campaign in the city to advertise and advocate marketing for the public transit system. He asked if it would be possible to make a partnership with the Columbia Business District or Chamber of Commerce. Discussion was had about inviting several different organizations to invite to the January Meeting to advocate for partnerships. Commission members were assigned a few organizations each to gather contact info from to send to Leah, who will in turn invite to a future meeting to discuss partnerships.

e. Driver Recognition Reception

Leah Christian met with several bus drivers at shift meetings this past week and many seemed excited about the idea. The reception would potentially be held either at the ARC or at City Hall in February. Leah will keep the commission informed.

VI. Old Business**a. Climate Action Task Force Response**

Leah wanted to mention that on November 28th the Climate Action Task Force will meet at City Hall in 1A, B & C at 5:30-7:30PM. Leah is asking that PTAC members attend and give support if available.

VII. Vision Zero Updates: Engineering (Lawrence and Heather), Enforcement (Heather) & Education (Mike)

Heather mentioned that the Crash Evaluation Team has been working. Enforcement will have their first meeting in January. On the Education side, they created a presentation for employers to give to employees criteria for driving their vehicles safely.

VIII. Disability Commission Update - Rene Powell

Rene mentioned that a rep from the airport requested advice on accessibility and input from the commission. She also spoke with Chuck and Adam on looking at ways to reduce demand on para transit by making fixed route more accessible. Chuck and Adam are looking into putting together a summit that would look into para transit eligibility and things like that. She will look into combining the results.

IX. Bike Ped Commission Update - Ann Marie Gortmaker

Did not meet yet

X. Staff Report: Leah Christian

On January 8th Transit will no longer be accepting fast passes.
Our current Marketing Specialist has put in her notice and we will be looking for a replacement shortly.

XI. Requests from Council/ City Manager

none

XII. General Comments made by Public, Commission & Staff

Diane Shuler mentioned that Johnny was in attendance from her micro-economics class and thanked him for coming.

XIII. Next Meeting Date

January 17th, 2019

XIV. Adjournment

**Blake Willoughby made a motion to adjourn with a second by Rene Powell.
Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Abels, Sr. Admin. Support Asst., City of Columbia - Transit Dept.