



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Public Transit Advisory Commission

Tuesday, February 20, 2024
5:30 PM

Conference Room
1A/1B
City Hall
701 E. Broadway

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Matt Wright at 5:30 pm.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

City Staff: Michael Sokoff, John Ogan, Gus Harmon, and Shannon Hemenway
Public: Christine Schneider

Present: 7 - Dawn Zeterberg, Matt Wright, Tammy Teel, Adam Thorp, Donald Jackson, Gabi Jacobs and Joy Rushing

Absent: 3 - Candy Cornman, Sarah Johnson and Heath Immel

Unexcused: 2 - Shaunda Hamilton and Robert Boone

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Matt made a motion to approve the agenda with a second from Gabi. The vote to approve the agenda was unanimous at 5:31 pm.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tammy made a motion to approve the minutes with a second from Dawn. The vote to approve the minutes was unanimous at 5:32 pm.

January 16 Minutes

Attachments: [January 16 Minutes](#)

V. City Council & Other Commission Updates: Vision Zero, Disability,

Bike/Ped, CATSO

Matt mentioned they appointed another member for PTAC.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Establishing Legislation Review

Attachments: [PTAC - B96-13, Council Memo, and Commission Correspondence](#)
[PTAC - Establishing Legislative History 2013](#)

Matt reviews each document, examining various topics concerning the quorum requirements. Adam expresses his concern regarding attendance, emphasizing the challenge of reaching a quorum. He notes he has no objection to including each university on the commission but stresses the importance of engaging interested participants to ensure a quorum. He wants to suggest to city council that we propose to the universities the availability of positions without making them mandatory to fill.

Joy raises the point that quorum could be achieved with fewer members. Matt asked Mike if he still meets with Mizzou regularly. He also asks if the same applies to Columbia or Stephens, to which Mike responds that he does meet with Mizzou regularly but does not with the other colleges.

Gabi asked how long has tiger line been around, with Mike indicating that it has been around since the 80s. Mike mentioned that Mizzou once owned their own buses but was not cost-efficient and they asked for the city to take over. He also mentioned that he has been attending PTAC as a Mizzou representative and city representative and their job has been to get a feel from the community about transit. Donald stresses that he needs to be a voice for the 500-plus people that he represents.

Adam proposes a motion to the city council suggesting that appointees from Stephens and Columbia College be informed about the commission but not mandated to join, leaving the University of Missouri representative unchanged. Matt proposes rephrasing the section concerning the student representative's necessity and making the position optional. Joy inquired about the primary reason for quorum issues.

Dawn wants to see more public transit members in PTAC and inquires about scheduling a PTAC ride on the day of. Shannon explained that would be difficult due to the staffing issues. Adam suggests including a note in the meeting agenda that the city offers rides. Matt proposes adding this topic to the next meeting's agenda. Shannon clarified that anyone can have a ride home from meetings.

Matt recalls a previous discussion initiated by Adam regarding an annual report, which he believes could be beneficial, echoed by Gabi. Adam emphasizes that the report does not need to be overly detailed but should summarize the commission's activities over the past year and plans for the upcoming year. Donald suggests setting a timeframe for publishing the report, proposing January or February, before the budget release. Adam emphasizes the importance of releasing it before the budget is finalized.

Adam proposed we adjust the quorum requirements while maintaining the same member count, this was echoed by Donald. Tammy seeks further explanation, which Matt provides. The motion is approved unanimously at 5:53 PM

Adam initiates another motion, proposing that the majority of PTAC members be appointed rather than a fixed number. Tammy seconds the motion, which passes unanimously at 5:55 PM.

Matt motions to eliminate section 2-338 regarding membership, receiving unanimous approval at 5:56 PM.

Dawn suggests forwarding these motions to the city council, seconded by Adam, and approved unanimously at 5:59 PM

Matt motions to shift point 8 of section 2337 to point 9, outlining the commission's responsibility for an annual report with recommendations to the city council. Joy seconds the motion, which passes unanimously at 6:18 PM.

2. Olsson Study Update

Mike reports that Olsson intends to meet with the commission in March, noting they've collected extensive data and will provide updates in the upcoming meeting. He adds that in April, another public event is scheduled at the Wabash Station to gather additional information. Mike indicates they aim for a finalized presentation to the city council in August.

Furthermore, Mike informs the commission that the Wabash lobby is open from Monday to Saturday.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Transit Driver Appreciation Day

Matt wants to ask the mayor if we can do a proclamation.

Tammy queries the number of drivers are currently employed. Mike responds, stating they currently have 28 active drivers, though some are on FMLA leave. He adds that they have hired nearly 10 drivers but have lost several along the way. Mike mentioned that they are interviewing weekly.

Joy asked what would be meaningful for the drivers, to which Mike suggested simple gestures like a thank you, recognition, and providing food go a long way. Donald suggests the idea of thank you cards, with Adam proposing purchasing cupcakes and cards as a gesture. Matt suggests considering this next year but initiating with a proclamation and aiming for a budget for these ideas. Gabi suggests placing a thank you box in the lobby for drivers.

John O. volunteers to post something on the GOCOMO website on March 18.

2. Earth Day

Matt notes he hasn't received any updates from the city manager regarding securing a budget. Mike discusses budget matters, indicating that this year presents challenges in obtaining funds for the commission, but expresses optimism about securing a budget for PTAC next year.

Tammy inquired about Earth Day, with Gabi mentioning it falls on April 21st. Tammy asks about the cost of a booth, with Matt confirming it's \$35. Matt asked the commission if they want to do Earth Day, in which there was a sounding yes. He suggests attaining collective contributions to securing a booth and seeks ideas from the commission on Earth Day activities. Donald mentioned that he would be happy to supply candy or items to hand out at the booth. Gabi suggests promoting the Olsson study. Matt queries if Olsson left the poster boards from the previous meeting, with Mike mentioning that they can likely obtain those from them at the next meeting. Mike also suggests having one of the Olsson study consultants present at the booth.

Matt asked Adam about the previous Earth Day setup, with Adam mentioning they used a sign-up sheet with time slots. Gabi proposes a comment box for attendee feedback.

VIII. RIDERSHIP

Mike informs the commission that he's preparing a formal report for presentation to the city council. Additionally, he notes that paratransit ridership is steadily increasing. Tammy voices concern that transit does not count the riders that are left behind, advocating for a method to track these individuals.

Matt inquires about the procedure for expressing complaints. Mike acknowledges the challenges they face but mentions avenues of feedback, including the new program Seat Click and the platform Be Heard Como, in addition to emailing. Matt recommends incorporating a non-digital option for feedback.

January Ridership

Attachments: [Ridership](#)

IX. REQUESTS FROM COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER

No new requests.

X GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

No comments.

Zoom Link

Attachments: [Hyperlink](#)

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE - 3/19/2024

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Matt motions to adjourn with a second from Gabi at 6:56 pm.

Members of the public may attend any open meeting. For requests for accommodations related to disability, please call 573-874-CITY (573-874-2489) or email CITY@CoMo.gov. In order to assist staff in making the appropriate arrangements for your accommodation, please make your request as far in advance of the posted meeting date as possible.

USB DRIVES PROHIBITED: Due to cybersecurity concerns, flash drives and other media devices are no longer permitted for delivering files or presentation materials. A speaker who desires to display a presentation must upload the presentation, in advance, to the city network using an upload portal. To upload your files and learn more, visit CoMo.gov/upload. (Effective Jan. 1, 2023)