

## **Bus Riders of Saskatoon – Meeting #9 - February 8, 2015**

Present: 5

Facilitators: Cameron,

Minutes from January meeting reviewed

Committee reports:

Internal Committee:

Mission, vision & group norms finalized.

Terms of reference for committees

Action item-add facilitator duties to terms of reference or as separate guidelines for facilitators to follow.

“active members” people who have attended a general or committee meeting in the last 3 months. Active members may represent BRS at city committee meetings, council meetings etc. proposed presentations must be approved at a meeting of BRS.

Approval of group actions may be proposed by any member. If there are enough people to carry out an action it can go forward under BRS name. Active members can veto if harm to BRS.

Action item-tweaking above. Should bring forward to a future meeting when more members are present for discussion & comment.

Action item-skill sharing opportunity at or prior to the next meeting? Facebook training is one suggestion.

External Committee:

Meeting with transit coming up. Sarina is currently out of town but will be back in time for the meeting. Stephan mentioned he has a list of potential questions for Transit. Tracy suggested forwarding these to Sarina in the event she needs agenda items for the upcoming meeting.

Online committee:

Online committee needs to know what might be asked/expected of it during the 10 days of transit event to determine if we have the capacity to meet that need.

Preliminary might be to edit and or post videos taken during the event. Personal “snapshots” of participant’s experiences. Suggested that a YouTube channel might be an option, this would off load the hosting of videos instead of our site.

Awaiting to hear from the 10 days for transit group if there are other needs we might be able to assist with.

Terms of reference are in progress.

Some procedures with respect to the website have been worked out. Blog posts will be left in draft until another at least one other committee member has a chance to review and proofread. For edits to pages (such as the resources page) there is no way to do edits in a draft for review before posting. Suggested edits to pages should be emailed to the other committee members for review/comment before posting. Generally if other committee members do not respond within 3 days, posts/edits will be assumed to be approved.

Discussion:

Ten days for transit:

Plan is tentatively for April 17-27th or so. Get people to commit to ride the bus 10 times in 10 days. Non-transit users. Create broad reach & buzz to promote ridership and transit improvements.

What works well now, what can be improved?

Importance of how transit can be improved and why.

“key riders” high profile people committing to 10DFT, introduced at launch. Asked to do minimum one blog, plus some short video clips.

Event at launch & event at conclusion of 10DFT

USSU, Bettertransityxe, Charlie Clark, Marin Lowen, involved in event.

Research in to what our “ask” would be in next federal and provincial elections?

Preliminary discussion at meeting after 10 days for transit for what we can ask

Possible membership in CUTA? Suggestion that BRS consider becoming a member of the Canadian Urban Transit Association. There is a cost, but CUTA has significant research material that could prove useful in lobbying all levels of government. Research info could help inform reasonable and attainable goals when advocating for public transit at all levels of government. Something to think about for the future as BRS grows and has funds available.

Inviting councillors? Focus on hearing what their views are, future of transit etc. Tracey will look into inviting Mairin Loewen to the next meeting.

Stephan mentioned he was reviewing information on Saskatoon Transit’s fleet age. Overall fleet age is a little over 14 years. 42% of buses are 20 years old or more. 45% are 9 years or less. Stephan remarked that he was somewhat surprised at this, perception was that fleet had more older units. This should improve with the ten new buses scheduled for delivery this spring/early summer.

Note that the City’s Growing Forward public engagement session is scheduled for March. Keep an eye out for info from the city and info will be posted on BRS Facebook page as well. This session will have a focus on Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) planning.

Next meeting date? March 8, 2015 1:30pm Food Bank

Facilitators? Cam, tentatively Samuel