

Bus Riders of Saskatoon

1:30 – 3:30 pm

November 15, 2016

Saskatoon Food Bank and Learning Centre

Facilitators: Sarina and Tracey

Meeting Notes: Mairi

1. Meeting open 1:40pm
  - a. Vision, Mission, Group Norms
  - b. Introduction of names
  - c. Explanation of committees and roles
  
2. City of Saskatoon meeting  
Agenda items:
  - a. Sarina, Mairi and Robert will be attending, Friday Nov. 20.
  - b. Robert will give an update from his presentation with the Standing Policy Committee about the 8<sup>th</sup> street frequent service.
  - c. Inaccuracy of bus times will be noted
    - i. The City's online trip planning is non-intuitive and not as helpful as other apps, such as the transit app.
    - ii. We will ask if there are any new changes/strategies happening for coming winter months. We will also ask if there is a plan for open/closed doors at stops in winter months
  
3. New Business
  - a. Sexual assault on busses
    - i. Responsibility for handling issues of assault continues to be passed back and forth between Transit and Police
    - ii. Are there other groups with experience in this area? Tracey has contacted the Saskatoon Sexual Assault and Information Centre as well as the USSU Women's Centre, but has not yet received a reply from the former.
    - iii. The Women's Centre suggested meeting with Transit to discuss a potential partnership
    - iv. Perhaps we could encourage Transit to have a "Transit on Tap" night on campus to promote an open discussion
    - v. We could potentially contact Crime Stoppers for a poster campaign, which would advertise to riders to call/text if they witness assault on busses
      1. It is not the drivers' responsibility to intervene; they are to call their supervisor who decides what should be done

- vi. Talk to transit to get clear understanding of what they expect riders to do as witnesses
- vii. Assault issues occur in every city. Maybe Transit needs to look into what other cities' policies are.
- viii. We could have a separate meeting with Bus Riders, the City, Women's Centre, Transit Union, Board of Police Commissioners, and the community to determine solutions
  - 1. Such a meeting could be run like the Citizens' Hearing on Climate Change, where knowledgeable presenters give information and the audience gives responses/ideas, while others record the audience's suggestions and look into them
- ix. Potential sub-committee: Cameron, Michael, Mylyne, Tracey. Tracey will send email and make sure meeting discussion gets going
  - 1. So long as we approach Transit and Police with solutions/ideas for moving forward, they must be receptive.
- b. Meeting with Chamber of Commerce
  - i. Chamber of Commerce is in support of transit being well-funded
  - ii. Bus Riders is already looking for outreach, so outreach to business community makes sense
  - iii. Transit getting levies from business for new development makes sense; businesses would likely be on board and have suggestions for other connections
  - iv. Present Bus Riders and Chamber of Commerce together for stronger voice
    - 1. We will invite a representative from the Chamber of Commerce to the next Bus Riders meeting and devote time to discussion, like we have with city councillors
- c. Active Transportation Plan consultations
  - i. We are sitting on Stakeholder Advisory Committee
  - ii. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting is happening the same time as the Growing Forward meeting (Wednesday, November 25).
  - iii. This is the last opportunity for consultation
  - iv. Sarina will post information on website
  - v. Bus Riders is an important voice in these consultations
- 4. Financial Report
  - a. Thanks to Ten Days for Transit, we have \$445.02 in our bank account, as well as a Bus Card with 10 tickets, and two Bus Riders t-shirts
  - b. Robert will write a cheque to reimburse an outstanding expenses

5. Outreach
  - a. Internal and External committee members who sent out invitations to various community groups will follow up, and invite them to attend our next two meetings, as well as offer to attend one of their meetings to present our group
  - b. Other strategies: more social media activity, postering, longer timeline for invitation to future meetings
6. Facebook – long term
  - a. Currently, the Bus Riders presence on Facebook is in the form of a group. For the long run, it might be better as a page.
    - i. We could potentially adapt the Ten Days for Transit page and re-name it
    - ii. Sarina will talk to someone more savvy with social media and bring their recommendation to the next meeting
7. Determine next meeting date and facilitators
  - a. Next meeting: Sunday, December 6, 2015, 1:30-3:30
  - b. Next meeting facilitators: Marianne and Cameron
  - c. Next note taker: Sarina
  - d. Marianne will invite the Chamber of Commerce to this meeting; if they are unable to attend, she will invite Troy Davies as the next city councillor.
  - e. First meeting of 2016: Sunday, January 10.
8. Adjournment 3:30pm