**Bus Riders of Saskatoon**

**September 17, 2019 (7:00 pm to 9:00 pm)**

**Mulberry’s on 3rd Avenue**

**Present**: Victoria, Louis, Peter, Robert, Curt, Doug, Lila

**Regrets**: Melissa, Bob E. Jim

**Facilitator**: Curt McCoshen

**Recorder**: Robert Clipperton

**1. Introductions and Group Norms**

**2. Finalization of Agenda**

**3. Review of Minutes** from August 13, 2019 Meeting. Approved.

4. **Financial Report**:

* Bank balance is $277.83.
* M/S/C Lila, Doug: To pay $16.99 to reimburse Stephan Simon for domain registration fees.
* Balance will now be $260.84

**5. Business arising from the minutes**

**5.1 CFCR Interview** – Robert will send host Debbie Windsor’s address to Doug.

**5.2 Meeting with ATU**:

* Group met with ATU executive members Darcy Pederson and Jim Yakubowski on August 16th.
* Purpose of the meeting was to establish contact between the two groups. Plan going forward is to meet a couple of times a year.

**5.3 Survey:** Nothing to report yet (Curt and Melissa)

**5.4 Climate Justice Request for Support:** Bus Riders sent a letter to City Council expressing our support to those portions of the Low Emissions Community Plan related to Transit (as per decision at August 13th meeting).

**5.5 Clinksill Manor:** Robert will talk to Eva Friesen about submitting their request for a bus stop near that seniors’ housing development.

**5.6 Action re: Government of Sask. diversion of federal transit funding**

* Peter has sent a letter to Premier Moe on behalf of BRS – no response as of yet
* Vicky reported on options for an e-petition to express our concern about this. Change.org seems to be the best.
* Peter will prepare the explanatory text for the petition and Vicky will do the rest.

**6. Correspondence**

**6.1 Councillor Gersher/Liz Culey re: Eko-Hack**:

* The group agreed to participate in this.
* Curt will contact Liz Culey for further information and will take the lead on this.

**6.2 Tracey Mitchell/Hayley Carlson – Climate Justice**

* Letter of thank you received for our letter of support to Council.

**6.3 Councillor Block re: Bus Stop Closure Signage**

* Review of correspondence to and from Councillor Block on this issue. Councillor Block reported that she has requested a report from Administration to be discussed at the next meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation. [Note: This report and any policy implementation has now been delayed until the November 4th SPCOT meeting.]

**7. City of Saskatoon Meetings**

**7.1 Highlights of August 26th, 2019 Meeting**: This meeting focussed on Transit’s bus stop audit and BRS concerns as discussed at the August meeting. Minutes will be posted on our website.

**7.2 Agenda / Representatives for next meeting – September 23rd at2:30 pm**

* This meeting is to focus on BRT. Other topics we may want to address if there is time include potential for using the ‘class pass’ for non-school youth groups and updates on the discontinuation of paper stop closure signage.
* Peter, Doug, Lila and Curt are able to attend.

**8. Active Transportation Advisory Group** (Curt): Nothing to report at this time.

**9. Actions and Action Plans for 2019-2020**

 **9.1 2020 City** Budget – we need to see what will be put forward for Transit

**9.2 Fare Review –** Transit has been successful in hiring an intern for 8 months to prepare background information in preparation for the impending Fare Review.

 **9.3 Disability Access –** work to be continued on this

**9.4** **Meetings with Councillors** – hope to continue these adhoc meetings

**9.5 U of S Bus Rider Group**

* noted that students at SIIT and Oskayak also have GO passes
* Doug has a contact with the Graduate Students’ Society who is doing research on public bussing
* Robert will contact Ryan Walker for suggestions
* Participants in Eko-Hack may be interested

**10.0 Other Business**

 **10.1 Federal Election – CUTA**

* Robert will post pro-transit messages from CUTA’s national campaign on our Facebook page

**10.2 Standard Policy Committee on Transportation** (see also agenda item 6.3)

* Suggestions for action include for Louis to present as an individual regarding the effect elimination of paper signs will have on seniors like him and calling for others to present. We could use rider input such as Victoria’s experience of inadequate posting in our presentation and call on Transportation to take over responsibility for posting paper signs. [Since this action is now moved to the November 4th meeting, we can discuss this further at our next meeting.]

 **10.3 Discussion of Kneeling Buses:**

* Doug noted that although Regina and Edmonton have the same buses as Saskatoon, drivers are not directed to avoid kneeling the buses when temperatures are below minus 20
* We will bring this up the next time we are able to meet with Jim McDonald

 **10.4 Bus Stop Blues:**

* Robert will post a reminder on our Facebook page
* Curt will do a roll up of stop suggestions submitted to our Facebook page and forward it to Allison Gray.

**11. Next Meeting: Tuesday October 22nd at 7:00 at Mulberry’s.**