

Bus Riders of Saskatoon

December 16, 2020 – 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Zoom Video Conference

Facilitator: Lila Recorder: Robert

Present: Lila, Robert, Curt, Peter, Melissa, Doug, Scott

Regrets: Vicky, Jennifer, Jim

Agenda

1. Introductions and Group Norms (see below)
2. Finalization of Agenda
  - Added items 8.3, 10.3, 10.4
3. Review of minutes of November 25, 2020 Meeting
  - Correction of spelling of Baijius
4. Financial Report: Bank balance is \$239.85 – no change
  - 4.1 Motion: That Robert Clipperton be authorized to set up online banking for the Bus Riders of Saskatoon account at Affinity Credit Union
    - Moved by Curt, Seconded by Peter. Carried.
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
  - 5.1 See various agenda items
6. Correspondence
  - 6.1 None received.
7. City of Saskatoon Meetings
  - 7.1 Report on November 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting with Jim McDonald, Director of Transit
    - 7.1.1 Highlights: Peter reported: Service standards document is on hold for now, fare review on hold until post-Covid to allow for public engagement, BRT progress awaiting release of provincial funds, fleet renewal dependent on federal funding, implementation of new ticketing system on schedule.
  - 7.2 Next meeting December 17, 2020 at 2:00 pm

## 8. Standing Policy Committee on Transportation

8.1 December 7, 2020 Meeting – no Transit issues were on the agenda

8.2 Next meeting: Monday, January 11.

8.3 Membership of the Committee in 2021

- Members will be Dubois, Jeffries, Donauer, Gough and Kirton with Clark ex.officio
- New members Gough and Kirton replace Block and Gersher

## 9. Access Transit – Bob Eaton – nothing to report

## 10 . Facebook Issues

10.1 Posting and roll out of Accessibility Policy

- Doug will make some minor edits in the policy and forward to Curt for posting on our website
- When it is posted, Doug will post a link and an explanation on our Facebook page.

10.2 Calls for mask enforcement

- Robert noted that FB posts continue to indicate that mask usage is below the level reported by Transit. Users on the Steering Committee concurred with the picture portrayed on FB. There was discussion of the reasons for this discrepancy.

10.3 Expanded mandate and revisions to Mission Statement

- Earlier this fall we agreed to expand our mandate to include inter-community transportation which will require changes to our mission statement.
- Scott (lead) and Curt will work together to prepare a new draft mission statement for consideration.

10.4 Organizations as members of BRS

- Agreed that this is not something that happens very often and that we would only take action if problems arise

## 11. Poverty Reduction Project – Transit Committee

11.1 No meetings have been held

## 12. National Transit Coalition (Robert, Peter)

### 12.1 December 1 – Digital Rally

- Robert reported on his experience with this event which had about 300 attendees and a number for speakers from across the country
- Event was to rally support for inclusion of operation funding in the Federal budget
- As a follow-up participants were encouraged to call and leave messages on answering devices at Justin Trudeau, Christia Freyland and the local MP's offices.

### 12.2 Letter to Chrystia Freeland (Minister of Finance) – The Coalition is preparing an open letter to request federal funding for both operating and infrastructure be included in the next budget.

- Agreed that Bus Riders of Saskatoon would be a signatory to the letter
- Agreed that we should send our own letter to Freeland

### 12.3 Further Actions

- Agreed that we should arrange meeting with our 3 Saskatoon MPs (Tocher, Waugh, Redekopp)
- Robert will forward the NTC letter to Curt who will work towards a meeting with Kevin Waugh – noted that Peter, Scott, Jim and Curt all live in Waugh's riding

## 13. Walking Saskatoon (skipped over at our meeting – update provided by Robert)

- Walking Saskatoon met on December 13<sup>th</sup>
- Decision was made to incorporate as a non-profit
- Next meeting on January 17th

## 14. Actions and Action Plans for 2020-2021

### 14.1 2021 Budget – Costed enhancements / service standards – presentation to Council / Governance & Priorities

- Agreed that we would present to the GPC in February
- Robert will bring a draft outline for a presentation to our January meeting.

## 14.2 Fare Review – Public Engagement

### 14.3 Meetings with Councillors (Robert)

14.3.1 Meeting with new Councillor: David Kirton -Thursday January 28, 2020 at 7:00 pm

- best to review past improvements – fleet renewal, real time arrival info., high frequency routes – and future challenges - BRT

### 14.4 Civic Election

14.4.1 LiveableYXE2020 (Robert)

- This coalition MAY try to maintain a presence between elections

### 14.5 Provincial Government

14.5.1 Meetings with Ministers/Opposition Critics/ MLAs

14.5.1.1 InterGovernmental Affairs – Don McMorris / Ryan Meili

14.5.1.2 Sask Builds – Don Morgan / Aleana Young

14.5.1.3 Municipal Affairs - Don Mc Morris / Matt Love

- Agreed that we should write a letter regarding transit funding to McMorris and aim for a meeting with the opposition members in January of February
- Peter will write the letter to McMorris as a follow up to his previous letters to Carr and Wyant.

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## 15. Other Business

15.1 None

15 . Date & time for next meeting: Wednesday January 13, 2021 – 7:00 pm

### Group Norms

All people are explicitly welcome and respected in our meetings and we will strive to include and represent the interests and varying perspectives of riders. We appreciate that we are all volunteers and that we are all learning and doing the best we can in our roles. We bring different life experiences and values to the table but what we share is a desire to work for positive change in our transit system. We aim to achieve changes in the short-term while keeping a long-view in mind and agree to

engage constructively and respectfully and not just within the group but also with decision-makers, the media and the general public.

In meetings, we agree to keep comments respectful and brief and respect the role of the meeting facilitator(s) who may need to cut us off from time to time to keep the conversation on track and on time. We will avoid tangents and side-bar conversations and speak one at a time. We will do our best to be accountable for what we take on and will try not to let each other down. If we have committed to a task and can't complete it in a timely manner, we agree that we will pass the task to someone else in the group. When we feel someone is not abiding by these norms, we will gently let them know. Repeated violations of the group norms by any member will be brought to the group to discuss.