

Bus Riders of Saskatoon
January 12, 2022 – 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Zoom Video Conference
Meeting Minutes

Facilitator: Curt Recorder: Robert Regrets: Jenn, Bob
Present: Donna, Jim, Peter, Sherry, Sydney, Steve, Lila

1. Introductions and Group Norms (see below)
2. Finalization of Agenda.
3. Review of minutes of November 17, 2021 Meeting - Accepted
4. Financial Report: Bank balance is \$384.86 – unchanged
5. Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1 Mission Statement Revision (Curt)

- Changes to Mission and Vision Statements were agreed upon as indicated:
 - Bus Riders of Saskatoon advocates for ***environmentally sustainable*** public transit in our city, province, and country.
 - Vision Statement
Bus Riders of Saskatoon want to live in a country where public transit is easy ***and environmentally sustainable***. It should be a viable transportation choice for all and a basic right of residency. Public transit should be accessible, effective, and reliable.
- Discussion of whether or not to retain wording in Mission Statement pertaining to province and country – will be reconsidered at a later meeting

5.2 Liveable YXE -Planning to take place with Murray Gross

- Robert reported that he is working with Murray Gross to set up an information exchange meeting with Liveable YXE organizations
- Target is to hold this meeting late in February

6. Correspondence

6.1 None

7. City of Saskatoon Meetings

7.1 Report on November 30th and December 12th Meetings:
November meeting (minutes posted): Topics as planned – Market Mall Terminal, service standards, On-Demand, schedule change impacts, on board video. December meeting: Engagement events, budget report, service hour costs.

- We made the point that signage at Market Mall had been inadequate during the construction phase
- We are still working on our understanding of service hour costs
- Engagement opportunities coming up: BRT Pilot Station, Broadway BRT Advisory Group, Public Art, Fare Review, New Transit Network
- Budget: inflationary increases, dollars to expand service into Kensington and Aspen Ridge, two new electric buses to be purchased

7.2 Next meeting: Monday January 17th, 2022 @ 2:30 pm

7.2.1 Agenda Items: Demonstration of Transit's Dashboard, Research Junction Project, fare boxes, shortage of roadworthy buses, timing of next five year plan, public communication systems, changes to system maps, comparisons with other cities

7.2.2 Attendees: Peter, Robert, Curt, Sherry. perhaps other regulars – Peter will contact them

8. Standing Policy Committee on Transportation

8.1 Meeting: December 6, 2021

8.1.1 Report on Operator De-escalation Training

8.2 Meeting: Monday January 10, 2022

8.2.1 Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

8.2.2 Sherry Tarasoff – Transit and Impact of Cold Weather – video of this section of the meeting has been posted on our FB page

8.2.3 Referrals to Administration: Communication of Detour Info: Q3

8.3 Next Meeting: Monday February 7, 2022

9. Access Transit

9.1 Town Hall Proposal – Status – tabled for next meeting

9.2 Discussion of a particular service failure - to be reported to Transit

10 . Facebook and Website Issues

10.1 Themes: Service Disruption – Cold Weather

- Question as to why service alerts from Twitter are not posted on FB

11. Keep Transit Moving Coalition (Robert, Peter, Lila)

11.1 Report on last meeting: Tuesday November 30, 2021

11.1.1 MicroTransit White Paper, Highway Bus Service

- Paper on the Saskatoon experience has been submitted by BRS
- Will be posted on the Bus Riders of Saskatoon web site

11.2 Next Meeting: Tuesday January 25, 2022 at 4:00 ET

12. Walking Saskatoon

12.1 Meeting – January 16, 2022 – Cancelled. Next meeting in February

12.2 Joint meeting on Snow Clearing

- Group agreed to participate in a joint meeting to be set up with City department responsible
- Perhaps Saskatoon Cycles would like to participate
- Discussion of some of the issues of clearing of sidewalks

13. Actions and Action Plans for 2021-2022

13.1 2022 Budget – Priorities

- Presentation made November 29 by Robert/Curt

13.2 Fare Review – In progress (Peter)

13.3 Meetings with Councillors

13.3.1 Future meetings

13.3.1.1 Curt will contact Councillor Jeffries through City Hall

13.4 Provincial Government

13.4.1 Meetings with Ministers/MLAs

- Don Morgan? (Bob) – Robert will contact Bob to see if there has been any progress here
- Agreed to send a letter to all Saskatoon MLAs about the shortage of City Buses and the connection with release of Federal infrastructure money – content will be similar to the letter to editor referred to in 14.2

13.5 Federal Representatives

13.5.1 Follow-up with Brad Redekopp, MP from July meeting

- Peter will try to set up a follow-up meeting

13.6 Corridor Consultations (Peter)

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14. Other Business

14.1 Proposal: Information sessions on Transit in Saskatoon

- Info sessions could include topics such as organizational principles behind Saskatoon Transit, best practices in Transit planning, BRT planning, what the new route structure might look like.
- The concept was discussed but no decision was made

14.2 Letter to Star-Phoenix connecting issue of shortage of mechanically sound buses with failure of provincial government to release federal government Infrastructure funding – Peter, Curt, Sherry and Robert will put a letter together.

14.3 EarthNet: Discussion of the involvement of Bus Riders in this organization. Information will be circulated.

15 . Date & time for next meeting: Wednesday February 16th.