

Bus Riders of Saskatoon

January 16, 2023 – 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm - Zoom Video Conference

Facilitator: Curt Recorder: Robert Regrets: Jenn
Present: Peter, Jim, Lila, Sherry, Odin

1. Welcome
2. Agenda adopted as circulated.
3. Review of minutes of November 28, 2022 meeting. Accepted.
4. Date & time for next meeting: Monday February 20, 2023 at 7:00 pm
5. Business Arising from the Minutes -
 - 5.1 Eligibility for Social Assistance bus pass / Ease of Purchase – COS
Follow-up – No word as to who we should talk to in Social Services – Robert will follow up to arrange a meeting with someone in Income Assistance.
 - 5.2 Meeting with Don Atchison – Verbal report – Attendees commented on the meeting and were generally pleased to have had the opportunity to meet with him.
6. Correspondence
 - 6.1 Hoessler/Simon – Re: Twitter Account
 - Mr.Simon has the codes for the account
 - Agreed that Robert will ask Mr. Simon to close the Twitter account or at minimum remove the affiliation with Bus Riders.
 - 6.2 CTV – Request for interview – Robert did a brief interview about Bus Riders’ needs with the new fare boxes. He suggested that in the future an in person on camera interview is a better option than an interview over Zoom as the quality is much better.
- 7 . Access Transit – Bob/Sydney – no one present to report
8. Facebook/Website Issues
 - 8.1 Facebook – Issues from last meeting up to January 9th: Commendations (7), Driver related complaints (3) -all refusal to allow boarding without fare during cold weather, Driver rant (1), Community announcements

(mostly anti-poverty related) (8), System management complaints including fare boxes (11), Rider info re delays (6), Lost and Found (1), Historic (3), Rider Q. & A (7), BRS Admin (4), ATU (4), Transit announcements (8), City Council/SPCOT/Misc. (2), Service complaints (10) Urban Transit Info: General (8), Europe (1), Edmonton (1), Calgary (4), Winnipeg (1), Toronto (1), Regina (1), Vancouver (2).

- Discussion - agreed that we need accurate information on ticket expiration and on the plan for rectifying farebox issues
- Sherry presented a map she had prepared of existing ticket vendors. As was posted on our FB page, there is no longer a vendor in the Confederation Mall leaving all of Ward 2 without a single vendor.

8.2 Website Content

8.2.1 Peter's presentation on Fleet Renewal has been posted.

8.2.2 Other Contributions from group members?

- Jenn may have something put together to post

8.2.3 Sub-directory for meeting minutes

- Robert will contact Rob Butz for assistance

8.3 BRS Twitter Account: See Correspondence 6.1

9. City of Saskatoon Meetings

9.1 Last meeting: December 13, 2022

- Topics discussed – Service disruptions, Route #1 reliability, OnDemand, Farebox issues, new bus purchases

9.2 Next meeting: January 30, 2023

9.2.1 Agenda Items: Meeting with Access Transit Manager

- We need to communicate with Bob/Sydney regarding Access issues so we can present questions for consideration ahead of time. Robert will follow up.
- Access issues: Subscriptions, use of taxis, issue with dialysis patients
 - Future questions: Lack of vendors in certain areas of the City – esp. SW part of the City and Ward 2, need a discussion of how to improve our relationship with the Transit team

- Robert will send an email to bring the lack of vendors to the attention of Councillor Gough

9.2.2 Attendees: Robert, (Curt), Sherry, (Lila), Peter, (Bob)

10. Standing Policy Committee on Transportation (SPCOT) – December 5, 2022

10.1 There were no items related to Transit on the agenda.

11. City Council Meeting – December 19, 2022

11.1 There were no items related to Transit on the agenda.

12. Breakout Session: “What should our focus be for 2023 and what actions might be undertaken in this regard?” - Tabled

13. Keep Transit Moving Coalition (Robert)

13.1 Next Meeting: January 31, 2013 at 3:00 pm

14. Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Project (SPRP)

14.1 Report on Meeting on January 12th meeting

- Lila reported that they would like to see free transit in Saskatoon
- She passed on to SPRP some of the issues that are affecting transit service in Saskatoon
- Big issues related to poverty in the City are food security and homelessness in part due to inflationary pressures – not an uplifting meeting

15. Ongoing Actions

15.1 Councillor Meetings

15.1.1 Next Councillor? Curt will try to set up a meeting with Councillor Kirton -

16. Other Business

16.1 Meeting with Erika Ritchie – MLA – Municipal Affairs critic

- February 3rd @ 1:30 was selected as the best date of those proposed by Ms. Ritchie’s office

17. Adjournment