



Town of Sudbury

<https://sudbury.ma.us/transportation/>

Sudbury Transportation Committee

Minutes

Thursday, March 14, 2019

9:30 AM

Police Department Training Room, 75 Hudson Road, Sudbury, MA

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Carmine Gentile, Alice Sapienza, Beth Suedmeyer, Bethany Hadvab, Daniel Nason, Susan Iuliano

Advisory Group Members Present: Scott Nix

Absent: Charlie Dunn, Deb Galloway

Also present: Kelsey Magnuson, Emerson; Andi Bailey, Uber; Adam Duchesneau, Sudbury Planning Director

Confirmation of Quorum

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, Dan Carty as acting chair convened the meeting at 9:35 AM.

Selection of Clerk to take minutes

Dan Carty volunteered to take minutes for this meeting.

Member Updates, Administrative Updates

Dan Carty and Carmine Gentile updated the group as to the recent decision by the Commonwealth to grant funds to the MWRTA for their first mile/last mile and Route 20 bus shuttle to Riverside station as previously discussed. Alice Sapienza asked about availability of parking for shuttle; Dan **Carty will follow up with Charlie Dunn to see if local businesses might allow parking at their facilities.** Beth Suedmeyer asked where the stops would be; Carmine **Gentile offered to get more detail from Ed Carr (MWRTA).** Dan Carty informed group that the 40R application for the Quarry North property had been approved by the Commonwealth but still needs to be approved at Town Meeting. If implemented there will be shuttles running to and from nearby commuter rail stations. Beth Suedmeyer gave overview of 40R vs. 40B. **Beth and Adam Duchesneau offered to follow up on details of transportation plan/benefits for this 40R.**

Discussion with Uber

At 9:48am the group welcomed Andi Bailey from Uber. Andi introduced herself and launched PowerPoint presentation "UberTransit & Utilizing Central". Andi and committee discussed different offerings; first mile/last mile, accessible transit, on-demand public transit, public transit jour-

ney planning in the Uber app, and Data and Analytics. Susan Iuliano asked for clarification of their “Assist” offering; Andi said that it is not currently offered in Massachusetts but they planned on doing so by the end of 2019. Andi showed an example of Uber Central and stated that it was currently being used by the Attleboro YMCA and was a web-based tool that allows organizations to arrange and pay for rides. She noted that it is not HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) compliant but that Uber Health was similar to Central and HIPAA compliant. Alice Sapienza asked about capacity of high capacity vehicles were and Andi confirmed.

Discussion ensued about possible implementation and Alice Sapienza said in our case Emerson would likely be the ones calling for the rides; Kelsey Magnuson confirmed. Kelsey asked about the differences between Uber Central and Uber Health; Andi stated that less information was passed through to drivers and there were also differences in what and how information was stored. Andi noted that vouchers were available but would require users to have mobile phones and was more self-managed in nature. Committee in general expressed concerns with HIPAA and opined that it would require much more research. Dan Carty asked committee how we deal with medical transport currently; Committee said that data was not stored. Scott Nix expressed concerns about safety and both Uber’s and Town’s reputation could be impacted if issues arose. Andi said that driver background checks included CORI. Scott said he could do international CORI but in general CORI only covered Massachusetts. Andi stated they use “CheckR” which goes out of state and also that their MBTA program encompassed 1700 customers and while there have been incidents they have been small in number. Alice Sapienza asked about establishing a pool of drivers to handle special assistance. Andi said it was possible but would be more expensive. **Andi offered to provide “LERT” confirmation to Chief Nix which details how they deal with post-incident issues. Chief Nix will then discuss details with pre and post incident handling.** Susan Iuliano stated this was very important as a program like this would be dealing with vulnerable portions of our population. Andi said Uber is capable of blocking driver/rider matches on future rides and that basic driver training includes getting people in and out of cars and general passenger handling while the “Assist” training program is more detailed. **Andi Bailey offered to provide related information to Dan Carty.**

Dan Carty asked if self-service was an option if we were to go with Central or Health; Andi said they utilized promo codes to bring self-service users into the Central and Health dispatching and that promo codes can be setup with different parameters and limits.

Scott Nix asked if Uber could provide Sudbury with referenceable accounts; Andi **Bailey will provide contact information for Robin McDonald at the Attleboro YMCA.**

Andi Bailey did demo of Uber Central. Alice Sapienza asked if multiple workstations could tie into the same program. Susan Iuliano gave example of having one at the Coolidge, one at Sr. Center, etc. Andi confirmed that could be done.

Bethany Hadvab asked about the financial model. Andi responded that Uber generally took a 10% charge for administration but pricing is flexible. Alice Sapienza asked what else we should be asking at this point; Andi said we should work out billing as well as any limits to trips at first. The

Town of Sudbury would have to negotiate a contract with Uber. Susan Iuliano asked about concerns or issues with RFPs and public procurement. ***Dan Carty will follow up with Town Manager to see if we would be impacted by either and if we were OK to proceed with discussions.***

With regards to HIPAA Kelsey Magnuson will look into whether Central would suffice or whether we would need to go with Health.

Andi Bailey left at 10:50am.

Discussion of Emerson Hospital Partnership

Alice Sapienza gave update on recent discussion with Kelsey Magnuson from Emerson, referencing the document "Range of Costs for Subsidized Uber Trips to Emerson Facilities". Susan Iuliano asked if all doctor visits and various practices were included; Kelsey ***Magnuson will follow up on this. Kelsey will also get data on what percentage of Emerson business comes from Sudbury.***

The committee had further discussion on HIPAA and again agreed that further discussion was warranted.

Future Agenda Items

Alice Sapienza will do a Microtransit presentation on March 28th. ***Dan Carty will contact Lyft and invite them to a meeting after March 28th.***

Review Action Items

- Uber/Lyft – where does the money go? CARTY – OPEN
- Weston Sr Center Ride Hailing info GALLOWAY – OPEN
- Chamber of Commerce – data on where workers come from DUNN – OPEN
- Alice Sapienza committee membership CARTY – OPEN
- MWRTA Grant – GALLOWAY/GENTILE – CLOSED
- One page concept paper for Metrowest Hospital HADVAB – Indefinitely tabled/Closed
- AARP Challenge Grant SAPIENZA – CLOSED (not applicable)
- Grant Writing help from Town Manager CARTY – OPEN
- Emerson Current Pilots, data collection MAGNUSON - OPEN

Approval of Minutes – Feb 7 2019, Feb 21 2019

Tabled until the next meeting due to lack of time.

Discuss and Schedule Upcoming Meetings

Next meetings scheduled for March 28th at 2:00pm at the Police Department 1st floor training room, April 18th 9:30am Police Department 1st floor training room

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am