



Town of Sudbury

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

Sudbury Transportation Committee

Minutes

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

9:00 AM

Via Town Zoom Conference Call

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Alice Sapienza, Debra Galloway, Kay Bell, Bob Lieberman

Advisory Group Present: None

Advisory Group Absent: Martha Welsh, Scott Nix, Carmine Gentile, Bethany Hadvab, Silvia Nersessian, Mary Warzynski

Guests: Ana Cristina Oliveira, Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV)

Confirmation of Quorum: The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, Dan Carty as Chair convened the meeting at 9:02 AM. Dan Carty made an announcement that this was a public meeting, and the meeting was being broadcast live via Zoom and recorded by Sudbury TV. He took roll call, noted a quorum was present, and announced that he was making Debra co-host of the Zoom session.

Selection of Clerk: Alice volunteered to take meeting minutes.

Action Items: Dan thanked attendees for this off-cycle meeting, at which the following would be addressed (not necessarily in the order listed):

- Elect chair of the committee (annual election)
- Determine if adult day care transportation constitutes a “medical ride”
- Finances update
- Annex update
- Community Transit Grant update
- Extended agreements with
 - JFK
 - Tommy’s Taxi
 - Uber
 - CTC dispatch.
- If time, review minutes.

Elect Chair: Although happy to be re-elected, Dan said the position is open every year to anyone who wished to take over. Members agreed that Dan is an excellent chair; Debra moved that he continue in the position, Alice seconded the motion, and approval on roll call was unanimous.

Annex Update: Next, Dan confirmed that Annex was no longer “pilot status” but one of now three vendors for GoSudbury. Members agreed that a survey of riders, soon to be administered by the Senior Center, should now include Annex. Ana Cristina informed the group that Annex was running smoothly, with no updates from riders.

Extended Agreements: Debra asked if the invoice for CrossTown Connect (CTC) dispatch could be paid; it was from the Town of Acton. Alice reminded the group that, although the CTC Transportation Management Association was not in effect, Acton was still the “doing business as” CTC for dispatching. She also noted that Julie Pierce was the person apparently replacing the former Acton town planner. Debra will take care of the payment and communicate with Julie about this.

Finances: Dan shared his screen with an updated Excel file showing GoSudbury transportation expenditures by vendor and by month, through May 2023. He also updated a graphic representation of monthly expenditures (Uber + Annex) and taxi, with inflection points (and descriptions) of modifications of policy that affected expenditures. These included changes to ride caps and co-pays (only for Uber). Dan stated that we now had 216 residents enrolled for taxi service and 174 enrolled for Uber.

Adult Day Care: Requests for rides to adult day care in Natick were received by Senior Center staff, who wanted to make sure these complied with our policy for taxi rides (healthcare services only). The group agreed the rides did comply and that we should keep watch on the frequency of such rides in the future. Alice suggested that, if such transportation became needed by more residents, we might negotiate with vendors for a “bundled rate.” Because of the predictable volume of such rides, that might be attractive for the vendor(s).

Community Transit Grant (CTG): Alice told members that the grant request is now for a Route 20 shuttle (with pickups within a to be determined zone) and the goal is twofold: (1) to help reduce social isolation, and (2) to give residents the freedom and dignity to be fully engaged in their community. Because CTG grants cover only 50% of total cost, with applicants responsible for the remainder, Alice is hoping to use time spent by town staff, and time spent by volunteers, as all or part of the “local match.” Dan is setting up a time for Alice, Dan, and Debra to speak with Andy Sheehan, Town Manager, about this. The grant is due 23 June.

Dan had asked Andy if money from the Warrant Article could be used for Catch Connect services. Andy stated that the language specified in the request noted only Uber and taxis. However, it would be possible to go back to the Town and explain (if the grant is funded) that Catch Connect would be part of GoSudbury. Both Bob and Alice said that the purpose of the Town funds was GoSudbury transportation, and that future language could be kept general in terms of vendors.

Minutes: The minutes of June 2 were reviewed. Alice moved to approve with recommendations noted; Kay seconded the move; approval on roll call was unanimous. Review of the minutes for May 12 was tabled for the next meeting.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Friday, June 30, at 10:30 AM by Zoom.

Adjournment: Bob moved to adjourn this meeting, Kay seconded, approval on roll call was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 10:01 AM.