

**SKAGIT TRANSIT
CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, January 12, 2015 5:05 p.m.
Skagit Station Conference Room
Mount Vernon, WA

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Committee Members

Joy Kane
Valerie Rose
Dick Phillips
Lynne Jordan
Joe Kunzler
Craig Edens
Louise Edens

Skagit Transit

Dale O'Brien
Motoko Pleasant
Carolyn Chase

Members of the Public

Carol Ehlers

I. Public Comment:

Louise Edens reported that the Anacortes Public Library is happy that their facility is on Route 409 with a dedicated stop. The Library has requested a flyer announcing the change.

Joe Kunzler said that he was glad South Fidalgo was being considered for service but that he was upset that service options were not brought to the CAC before going to the Board. He also commented that he was happy to see that public toilet facilities were being installed at the Chuckanut Park and Ride. Joe went on to ask for a special summer session to study the Transit Development Plan (TDP). This request opened up a conversation about the tradition of cancelling summer CAC meeting. Joe mentioned that the problem with not meeting in summer is that the CAC has no opportunity to review and provide comments on the TDP.

II. Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Valerie Rose and seconded by Craig Edens to approve the December 2015 minutes as provided by Staff.

III. Accountability Reporting Presentation

Joe Kunzler made a presentation to the group on accountability reporting and ideas for getting more information out to the public on service productivity, efficiency, and fare-box recovery. Joe said that it would be appropriate for the website and the Transit Development Plan to include more of this type of data. Joe pointed to Whatcom Transportation Authority as an agency that is doing more to get this information to the public via their website and planning documents. He said that having more of this information easily accessible to the public could force important conversations and ultimately result in efficiency gains. One of the main points of Joe's presentation was that much of the information already exists but is not available in one central place like the website or the TDP.

Dale O'Brien said that Joe's points were well taken and that while staffing and resource limitations dictate a good deal of what information is available, that Skagit Transit would be able to implement some of the changes proposed in the presentation. Dale went on to explain some of the Agency's history of service and staffing cuts in 2002.

Joy Kane said that she did not believe oversight of Skagit Transit operations was the role of the CAC. She said that she has always seen the CAC's role as bringing feedback from the public to Administration. She also discussed that requests from the CAC to Staff should come from the group as a body and not from individual members. Louise Edens said that she saw the CAC as being the Ambassadors of the Agency and that she wants to promote CAC.

Conversation went back to the South Fidalgo Service options presented to the Board in December and concerns that those ideas were not vetted with the CAC beforehand. Staff assured the CAC that none of the two service ideas were fully formed and that if either idea was supported by the Board then there would be a time for CAC involvement and feedback but that it was too early in the process to get the CAC involved. Staff explained that they were going to continue trying to find out more information about the options to present to the Board.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 PM.

Joy Kane, Chair
Skagit Transit Citizens' Advisory Committee

Attest:

Carolyn Chase
Service Development Planner