

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

**January 9, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Judy Jones.

Members Present: Ray Bock, Doris Brevoort, BJ Carol, Robin Gosney, Madeline Handzlik, Chris and Judy Jones, Daniel Kihangu, John Norman, Monette Partin, Dick Phillips, Valerie Rose, Dave Stevens, Brad Windler, and Cheryl Willis.

There were no guests, and no public comments.

A motion was put forward by BJ and seconded by Robin the December minutes be approved. Motion carried.

As a token of appreciation for the work of the CAC, Skagit Transit is hosting a small thank-you event for our February 13 meeting. As many members as can are encouraged to come in person, and the Chair plans to invite Skagit Transit Board members as well.

A consultant with the long-range planning studies will be present to take any member feedback regarding services and their implementation, so the Chair is asking members to be prepared with those requests and recommendations that have been presented in the past.

Members reviewed proposed language changes to the 2024 by-laws draft by Skagit Transit CEO, legal counsel, and Board, and a recommendation vote will be taken, to bring the proposed by-laws to the Board for a vote to approve.

In late February, Brad reports that several public meetings will be scheduled, in order to gain countywide feedback for the long-range studies, and would like CAC members to be present as greeters at the different meeting venues, and to help give input.

Under the staff report, ridership continues to steadily increase and has seen an overall rise in 2023 of 20.1% over 2022 for fixed route service and 23.1% for paratransit.

Regarding the highlight on the 70X, Brad has information he will be sending out to all members via e-mail.

The committee officially welcomed Daniel Kihangu as a new member, and, no doubt, his contributions to the CAC will be valuable.

Brad gave an overview of the additional service and route changes to the 513 and 615.

As there is now some interlining involved with the 204 and 207 routes, plus the 208 and 202 routes, Brad states people should pay particular attention to the route and number changes now taking place, and states it will take time for both ridership and drivers to adjust in their capacities. There has been extensive coverage given to these changes through notices on the buses and in the rider guides. Transit personnel also have gone to the various transit points to educate the traveling public.

Cheryl announced the Ride Free day on January 25 for Skagit County Residents, and says this day coincides with the Point In Time count for those with no physical address.

On January 15, Martin Luther King Day, the transit admin offices will be closed.

During the round table session, Monette asked if there were rider guides at the Central Skagit Library, and was reassured by Brad they should have them.

With no further business, a motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Next meeting, February 13.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Jones

CAC Chair