

MINUTES

AUGUST 8, 2023

The meeting was called to order by Chair Judy Jones.

Members Present: Doris Brevoort, Robin Gosney, Chris and Judy Jones, John Norman, Dick Phillips, and Valerie Rose.

We had three guests present, two of whom are CAC member applicants.

Public Comment: Guest Ed Johnson voiced some ridership concerns, which are currently being addressed by the appropriate transit staff.

The July minutes were approved as submitted, with a motion by Dick Phillips, seconded by Robin Gosney.

The new CAC applicants, Monette Partin and Madeline Handzlik, presented their information to the committee, and a motion was unanimously passed to recommend them to the board for CAC membership.

Under staff reporting, Brad states July ridership increased by nineteen percent

A Stuff The Bus/Diaper Drive event is occurring at the Skagit County Fair, August 10, from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM, north entrance. Those bringing items will receive one free admission ticket per family, while supplies last.

Skagit Transit is pleased to have Mr. Charlie MacIsaac as the new Community Engagement Specialist. He will be working with non-English-speaking residents through a grant-funded consolidated grant program under the state Department Of Transportation. He will help these residents receive access to necessary Skagit Transit information, enabling them to make the most of area transit services.

Great news! An eighty-thousand dollar grant was awarded from the Federal Transit Administration under “areas of persistent poverty” for use in the county’s disadvantaged areas and populations. Monies will be used to develop a micro transit system that will serve these population in rural areas not geographically conducive to a standard fixed route system. The micro transit will operate as an on-demand service, and it is important to note that such a service will not supplant regular transit services.

Three studies will be conducted this fall, and consist of the Regional Transit Study, the Micro Transit Study, and the Comprehensive Operations Analysis, (COA), improving the efficiency of route scheduling and service.

Next week, the annual transit development plan will be submitted to the board for approval.

Brad states he now has enough information on new bus shelter recommendations to take to the appropriate department heads, and will return to the CAC with their input and further discussion.

The Region Awareness Committee reports all is going well with the connector bus services in the area.

For the Round Table, Judy mentioned August table staffing dates will occur the afternoon of August 24, and morning of August 28, and has already contacted volunteers. Who can participate.

Various members today stated they could not access Skagit Station using an entrance that was locked prior to the stated closing time on the sign. Brad will follow up with the issue.

Dick raised a concern that in a presentation given by Community Action to Salem Village, Skagit Transit was not listed as a county resource, and recommends Skagit Transit raise their profile with Skagit County Community Action.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Jones

CAC Chair