

**SKAGIT TRANSIT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, February 11, 2020
Skagit Station Conference Room Mount Vernon, WA

Committee Members

Doris Brevoort
Robin Gosney
Joy Kane
Joe Kunzler
Judy Jones, Vic Chair
Chris Jones, Chair
Valerie Rose
Dick Phillips
Dave Stevens

Skagit Transit

Brad Windler
Cheryl Willis

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. by the Chair Chris Jones

II. Introductions

Brief introductions were made by committee members.

III. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VI. Minutes

Tabled until Brad has time for editing.

V. Guided Transit Tours

The new Guided Travel Tours program was introduced by Cheryl Willis. (Flyers and brochures were provided to everyone at last meeting and present meeting.) Robin Gosney posted at apartment laundry room locations. Judy Jones sent to Collette at RCB. Joe Kunzler at public libraries. Seeking other members to place posters in the community.

First come first serve for registration. Space is limited for each month's program. Some tours will partner with Island Transit.

Eagle Festival tour canceled due to snow conditions.

Registration – a minimum of 1 week in advance is required. Registration sheets at Customer Service office at 105 E Kincaid or call 360-757-4433. Info at www.SkagitTransit.org/additionalservices/tours

VI. CAC By Law Update

The bylaw changes have by enlarge be dealt with. The new bylaw additions are being put on the Skagit Transit Board of Directors meeting agenda to be reviewed.

The Associate Member topic is tabled until later in the year. This allows time for the new quorum by law to go into effect and to see how it plays out.

VII. Touch Pass – launched on February 1st. Statistics week 1 – 25 boarding with TouchPass Week 2 – 42 boardings. Social service adopter week 1 is Community Action of Skagit County. Northwest Regional council will be next to adopt TouchPass (they are using WTA TouchPass this year) This agency buys a good amount of monthly passes. We expect more agency adopters in March. DSHS is included. Judy Jones provided contact info for agency Department of the Blind. Cheryl is sending email to Dept of the Blind regarding TouchPass adoption.

Skagit Transit and WTA will merge their TouchPass programs in the near future.

TouchPass generates ridership reports with details like: location of boarding and deboarding, time and fare pass type. UMPTA survey is accomplished by staff riding runs and counting riders getting on and off transit.

VIII. NSTA – (North Sound Transportation Alliance)

NSTA serves the five Northern Washington counties. Membership is public and private transportation entities. Legislative proposal was completed by Brad Windler and NSTA and sent to Olympia. The legislative piece requested funds be allotted for a study about growth demand for transportation and needs related to the County Connector. The study would include demands that occur for the inter county travel. How transit services may be altered. Connecting up to 2024 Lynwood light rail completion. The proposal asks what WSDOT lead the study. It looks at bus rapid transit projections into Arlington Washington. Note in 2018 fixed route customers say they leave Skagit County at least once a month.

If this legislative request doesn't not get included into the budget then a request will be sent in the Fall for the study of growth demand. Service models and infrastructure need to become a model.

Speaker – Heidi Wells – will call in and present on March 10th. Heidi was the initiator of the 1990's University of Washington youth pass system and Sound Moves. Everyone is requested to

submit your questions for the speaker in the next week. She may provide some knowledge of ways to get youth to adopt a student or youth pass. One question is how did they work with youth that was 8, 9, 10 or 11 years old riding on transit.

There is a quarterly transit transportation option at Skagit Valley College for college students. Skagit Transit is seeking more institutional buy into transit.

Chris Jones noted that the Board of the North Sound Community and Technical Colleges could be a group to approach regarding student id and transportation adoption of transit.

IX. Roundtable

Summer youth pass \$15 for June, July and August transit rides for youth in middle thru high school.

Teleconference topic – The Skagit Transit technology department is working a good deal with TouchPass. Brad will check in with this department to see what is possible for Heidi's Wells video conferencing.

Joe would like to put the topic of a roll out events on the agenda in a future meeting.

Valerie would like to see bus wraps introducing Skagit Transit service options.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Chris Jones to adjourn the meeting; Judy Jones seconded. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned by Chris Jones, Chair, at 6:05 p.m.

Brad Windler, Service Development Planner