

DRAFT

SKAGIT TRANSIT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 8, 2019
Skagit Station Conference Room
Mount Vernon, WA

Committee Members

Craig Edens
Louise Edens, Chair
Chris Jones, Vice-Chair
Joy Kane
Joe Kunzler, Special Projects Assistant
Dick Phillips
Dave Stephens

Skagit Transit

Brad Windler, Planning & Outreach Supervisor

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Louise Edens. There were no visitors or introductions made.

II. Minutes

A motion was made by Dick Philips and seconded by Craig Edens to approve the minutes of the December 2018 meeting as written. The motion carried with one abstention.

III. Staff Report

Brad Windler updated the CAC on Skagit Transit. The service change began last week. Affected routes are the 204, 207, 305 and 750. The drivers are a little ahead of schedule but are able to stop and wait in safe locations. It is normal to see a dip in ridership when a change is made but activity is expected to increase soon. There will be another service change in September 2019 pending the award of grant money. Skagit Transit should know more in March but things look favorable at this time.

Skagit Transit did not receive federal dollars for the new MOA facility. They will re-apply the next grant cycle.

An engineering firm has been hired to help with bus stop improvements. These include the Sedro-Woolley Food Bank pull-out, a shelter near the Wells Fargo Bank on Riverside, and an employee restroom at the Sedro-Woolley Park and Ride.

Skagit Transit will go to the Board of Directors in February with a proposal to seek public input on Paratransit fares.

Joe Kunzler asked a question regarding service changes in Sedro-Woolley. The new library will open in 2020. Brad responded that, at this time, he does not know when it will occur. Putting in the employee restroom at the Sedro-Woolley Park and Ride is the first priority.

IV. Field Trip

A field trip to Everett Transit to look at their “bus bulbs” on Broadway Avenue was discussed. The preferred day of the week is Thursday, traveling mid-day on the 90x. Everett Transit may provide a brief presentation at Everett Station, then the group could walk up to Broadway. A motion was made by Chris Jones and seconded by Joy Kane for Brad and Joe to arrange the field trip. The motion carried.

V. Roundtable

Joe reported that he spoke with Brad before the meeting about several concerns. These included the website not being updated, the need for more useful “way finding” information, and a social media presence. He suggested the CAC hold a workshop or special meeting in the future regarding Paratransit fares. Joe expressed his regret for missing the last meeting.

Chris Jones asked Brad why a monthly pass is not being considered in Paratransit fares. Brad explained that a monthly pass would be very expensive to offer as some people are heavy users of the system. Skagit Transit would like to balance the use of Paratransit and Fixed Route; encourage Paratransit users to take Fixed Route when they can. One idea is to let Paratransit clients ride Fixed Route for free. Brad stated that there will be a series of public meetings regarding proposed fares. Current Paratransit clients will receive an invitation.

VI. Adjournment

A motion was made by Joe and seconded by Dick to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Louise.

Coni Carrothers, Mobility Outreach Specialist

Attest:

Brad Windler, Planning & Outreach Supervisor