

## **Westport Transit District Directors' Meeting Minutes**

Friday, December 12, 2014 at 10:00 AM – Westport-Weston Family Y – Schine Conference Room

### Attending

Westport Transit District Directors: Eugene Cederbaum and Jennifer Johnson; Dewey Loselle, Peter Gold, Sal Liccione, Pippa Bellander, Jim Ross, John Hartwell, Evan Barr, Jessica Newshel, Melissa Kane, and State Representative Gail Lavielle; and, Norwalk Transit District: Nancy Carroll.

### Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM. The minutes of the July 17, 2014 meeting were accepted. The minutes of the October 17, 2014 meeting were accepted after clarification of the proposed and amended labeling on the resolution documents was explained.

### Public Comment

1. Pippa Bellander described a project her son (film student) was proposing. She requested, on his behalf, the ability to prepare a video of all things great in public transit. The promotional project would be done during his semester break, December 19 through January 5 and would involve video recording of passengers using different modes of transit service. The Directors approved the project.
2. Sal Liccione thanked the Directors and the Town for getting the waiver for the continuation of the After School Shuttle.
3. Melissa Kane reported on the first draft of the Master Plan for the Downtown. Recommendations to support increased transit service to the downtown are made as well as additional transit amenities. The final plan will be presented to the RTM.
4. Jim Ross noted the difficulties he has had scheduling door-to-door trips to the new Family Y. Given the available vehicle resources, different strategies were discussed to provide service to the Family Y, including: a fixed-route component, user participation fees, surveys to determine demand, and establishing an Advisory Group or transportation working group representing all constituencies.

### Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Update

Jennifer Johnson reported on the Transit for Connecticut meeting in Hartford. State Representative Gail Lavielle discussed bonding issues associated with commuter rail in terms of State priorities. General discussion followed noting the need for an organized voice representing the interests of those along the Stamford to New Haven corridor.

### Marketing

Mrs. Carroll reported on her recent meeting with Vertex Marketing and plans for future efforts. Ms. Johnson led a discussion regarding the removal of the signs at the Rail Station by the MTA and the process to follow to have them placed back in the advertising racks.

### After School Shuttle Status

It was reported that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) granted an extension through the end of the school year for the operation of the After School Shuttle. Dewey Loselle discussed the RFP issued by the Board of Education for school bus transportation and the request for after school services as an alternate proposal for FY'16.

### Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) System Update

Discussion deferred to the next meeting.

### SWRPA Westport Bus and Rail Studies Update

Discussion deferred to the next meeting.

WTD Shuttle Ridership Status

Discussion deferred to the next meeting.

WTD Railroad Parking Resolution Status

Discussion deferred to the next meeting.

FY 2015 – 16 Budget – Preliminary Discussions

Ms. Johnson shared some of the challenges the directors were facing and indicated they were presenting a letter to the RTM expressing those concerns. They will aim for mid-January to begin budget discussions for the next fiscal year.

2015 Proposed WTD Meeting Calendar

Directors' Meetings in 2015 would occur on the second Friday of the month at 10:00 AM. The following months/dates were selected:

- February 13
- March 13
- April 10
- May 8
- July 10
- October 9
- December 11
- January 8, 2016

Other Business

There was no other business.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nancy R. Carroll, Chief Operating Officer  
Norwalk Transit District