Minutes

Meeting of After School Transportation Advisory Committee March 12, 2015, 3 p.m. Town Hall Room 309

Attendance: Dewey Loselle Co-Chair, Jennifer Johnson Co-Chair, Amee Borys (Earthplace), Karen Beitel (Temple Israel), Karen Klein (BOE), Jennifer Tooker (BOF), Sandra Evangelista (BOE)

Meeting Minutes: Dewey Loselle

The meeting was opened by Dewey Loselle. The group received an update on where we were at with our RFP to seek a private transportation provider which might be interested in providing after school transportation services for next year. These services were previously provided through Norwalk Transit District at a subsidized cost through the State. The Federal Government this year made a ruling that the after school service was no longer eligible, although Westport was able to get an exemption through the end of this year.

The Town on behalf of the programs participated with the BOE in their major multiyear bid for the general school bus services contract. The Town received one bid for after school transportation services from B&B Transportation Inc. out of Bethany CT.

The Town had reviewed the bid and asked a number of clarification questions with the provider. The bid and the questions and answers were provided to the Committee members and the after school program providers. B&B Transportation was a company which appeared to have a very good track record and mostly specialized in providing services to private schools, universities and special programs.

Two of the programs have expressed an interest in potentially privately contracting with B&B for the future. At the meeting it was discussed that going forward this would become a totally private service arrangement between the bus company and the programs and that neither the Town nor the BOE would be providing any funding. It was also discussed that the owner of B&B would be willing to come down to Westport and discuss the company's services with the programs and how to best structure their needed pickups/routes etc. In addition it was discussed how other programs along the routes might want to participate and cost share and how that might work.

Dewey Loselle and Sandy Evangelista offered to continue to help the programs with the negotiation and contracting process if the programs decided to move forward with B&B

As the main purpose of this Committee had now been accomplished a motion was made by Dewey Loselle to dissolve the Committee which was seconded by Karen Kleine. The motion was approved unanimously.