



Rock County Transportation Coordinating Committee MEETING
Minutes – July 8, 2016

Call to Order. Chair Molly Nolte called the meeting of the committee to order at 8:45 a.m. at the Rock County Job Center in Room D/E.

Committee Members Present: Lynn Jones, T.J. Nee, Vice Chair Terry Nolan, Molly Nolte, Supervisor Norvain Pleasant, Ryan Schomber, Karl Schulte, and Rob Wilkinson.

Committee Members Absent: Patty Hansberry, Joyce Lubben, Terry Nolan, Steve Skelly, James Thompson, and Mike Warren.

Alternates/Others Present: Joe Scharenbroch, alternate, and Ryan Rittenhouse, intern for the City of Janesville MPO.

Approval of Agenda: Terry Nolan moved approval of the agenda of July 8, 2016, second by Rob Wilkinson. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communication, and Announcements: Ryan Rittenhouse, intern for the Janesville MPO, introduced himself. Rob Wilkinson provided literature for the "Just Fix It" campaign which encourages the public to be involved with moving the I-39/90 project forward, invited the TCC to the Nuns on a Bus event at Fourth Ward Park on Tuesday, July 12, at 9 a.m., and also informed the group about a VOAD meeting at Grinnell Hall on July 22, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

Sub-Committee Reports:

1. Advocacy: Molly Nolte explained the updates regarding the Industries for the Blind transportation issue. She had done travel training with an Industries employee who has been reabsorbed to paratransit due to the unsafe conditions of walking to work from the bus stop. Because there are no proper crosswalks or sidewalk installed, it is difficult and unsafe for the employees to walk from the bus stop. Ms. Nolte explained that she had discussed the sidewalk matter with staff at Industries as well as with Dave Hyde, director at the Wisconsin School for the Blind. The City of Janesville offered ways for sidewalk to be installed. At this time, the committee will wait until Ms. Nolte hears from Mr. Hyde who is attempting to schedule a meeting with the Milwaukee office for Industries for the Blind. It was agreed upon by the group that considering the large population of visually impaired persons in Rock County, accessibility should be more prevalent. Karl Schulte added that Gary Goyke who works on behalf of the Council for the Blind would be a good contact regarding this issue. Joe Scharenbroch also offered assistance from Disability Rights if it came to that point.

2. Mobility: Terry Nolan reported that the group discussed item 3.2 of the action plan regarding increasing access to affordable automobile and automobile services for smaller providers. Ms. Nolan explained it's often difficult to track down all of the FTA funded transit vehicles in the area due to poor reporting to the MPO. The committee discussed what happens to vehicles after their useful life and considered leasing options since the FTA still owns those transit vehicles. Karl Schulte discussed Transit Mutual Insurance regarding liability issues. There was also discussion of sharing vehicles between agencies. Ms. Nolan also advised that the group agreed 45 minutes is ample time for the sub-committee meeting length.

Old Business:

Human Services Member Vacancy: Due to Family Care, it is not possible to replace Jennifer Anselmi or John Hanewall at this time. Joe Scharenbroch advised that Family Care was implemented July 1 but it will be an incremental implementation process and could take months. Rob Wilkinson made a motion to table this topic until September. Seconded by Supervisor Pleasant. All were in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Concrete Slab at Rock County Complex Bus Stop: Mike Warren advised via e-mail that Janesville would not be financially responsible for the cost of a concrete slab at the Rock County Complex. Joyce Lubben and Molly Nolte contact Brent Sutherland and Doug Keating at Rock County Facilities Management who have contacted both JTS for specifications and a concrete person. They should have estimates mid-July. The funding could come from either Rock County or 5310 grant monies.

Industries for the Blind: This item was discussed during the Advocacy report.

Member Reports:

Ryan Schomber said they began a new fiscal quarter July 1. He has been doing work incentive benefits counseling and explaining the rules of earning income.

T. J. Nee has some projects that the TCC may weigh in on. He passed around cards regarding a parking survey for the Rockton and downtown Beloit areas. There is an existing survey for the SLATS Long Range Transportation Plan that will be open until Tuesday, and they should have a draft review ready after a month.

Lynn Jones has been applying for funding for their youth programs. There has been a lot of training for entry level employees for the I-39/90 project. They are looking to explain the Beloit location at the Eclipse center and will possibly use Cardinal Stritch classrooms. Ms. Jones expressed interest in expanding the smaller scale programs. She also mentioned that it's been a difficult time for transportation such as for child care vehicles and with their older vehicles.

Terry Nolan is looking into grant funding to complete the Transit Development Plan. She mentioned a new advisory committee and suggested there would be some space for members of the TCC. The Long Range Transportation Plan has been adopted, and now she is working on the Parks Plan. Ryan, their intern, has been working on a trail survey which is done on a 3-year basis. There has been changes in how people travel and the trail system is aging.

Molly Nolte has had 3 AARP classes and has scheduled 4 more. She attended the Janesville Police Dept. Bike Rodeo for kids in June. Miracle Ear in Janesville, Walgreen's, and Blackhawk Comm. Credit Union are Dementia Friendly. Ms. Nolte was selected for the America Walks Walking College fellowship. Wednesday Walks in underway and the first was a success. Ms. Nolte introduced "Cycling without Age" which is a rickshaw program that allow older adults to be on a bicycle.

Rob Wilkinson invited members to attend the "Courageous Conversations" group that meets every 4th Monday to speak about concerning issues such as the recent police violence and shootings. He offered that in order to keep that violence out of Rock County there needs to be conversations about the issues.

Future Agenda Items: Update on Coordinated Plan Action Items - Progress

Future Meeting Dates: September 9, November 11

Adjourn: Rob Wilkinson moved to adjourn at 9:30 a.m., second by Supervisor Pleasant.
ADOPTED by acclamation.

Minutes taken by Molly Nolte

NOT OFFICAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEE.