

# **FLORENCE TRANSIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

## **August 17, 2016**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 1:32pm by Chair Craig.

### **ROLL CALL**

Committee Members: Bill Craig, Don Patton, Jane Ashley, Stan Easter and Sandi Young were present.

Ex-Officio members: Josh Haring (River Cities Taxi) was present.

City Councilors: Councilor Preisler

Support Staff: Glen Southerland, Florence Planning Department, was present.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Craig moved to approve, second by Young. By voice, all ayes. Agenda approved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

### **ROUTE CHANGES UPDATE/OPERATIONS**

Statistics: Haring reported ridership about the same as last month. He said that new riders are using the bus primarily for transportation, not as much for social use as previous riders.

Benches: The location of the second Kiwanis bench at the hospital is still to be determined. The 8<sup>th</sup> Street location near the Dollar Store has been measured and marked for reconstruction. The shelter at Munsel Lake has been cleaned, and the panels repaired at the Grocery Outlet stop. The remaining two benches are in storage until their sites are ready.

### **PROMOTIONS AND MARKETING**

Senior Expo: Thursday, October 27. Young moved approval for a booth there, second by Easter. Approved by voice vote.

Video: Ashley said that Mark Brennan from the library has offered to do a 6 minute video of the Rhody Express at no cost. His background is in journalism and communications. Offer accepted with gratitude.

Bags: Haring said more bags were needed. He asked if they should be pink or purple rather than green. It was decided that purple would be appropriate.

Middle School Education: Craig asked if this program was being worked on. Haring said that he is working with the new superintendent to implement a bus riding education segment.

**OTHER**

Bus Buddy: The Bus Buddy program does not seem to be working well. Ashley resigns from that program, having just celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Haring suggests using the program at the Rhody Express discretion, rather than on a request basis. He said the drivers or agency representatives or others would be in a better position to determine when Bus Buddy training would be effective.

Aging in Place: Young spoke about a new senior forum to be held September 16 at the FEC. Sponsored jointly by Peace Health Peace Harbor Medical Center, Florence Habitat for Humanity, FACC, and the City of Florence, the forum will provide information about the ability to age in one’s own home or in the community. She requested that Rhody Express have a booth since transportation is an integral part of being able to remain at home as one ages. Haring said he could do that, but might need TAC members there for part of the day. Craig moved to participate, second by Ashley. Approved by voice vote.

**FUTURE MEETING DATE**

September 21, 2016 at 1:30 at City Hall.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.**

**APPROVED BY THE TAC ON THE \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.**

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**Bill Craig, Chairperson**