

REGULAR BOARD MEETING - BLOOMINGTON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION CORPORATION (BPTC) OCTOBER 16, 2018, 5:30 P.M.

In the Edward J. Kuntz Board Room of the Bloomington Transit Operating Facility, 130 W. Grimes Lane, Chair Obermeyer convened the regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Bloomington Public Transportation Corporation.

ROLL CALL

Board Members present: Chair Obermeyer, Vice Chairman McDaniel, Secretary McLary and Board Member Hartman. Also present were Lewis May, General Manager, Brenda Underwood, Human Resource/Marketing Administrator, Christa Browning, Controller, Zac Huneck, Planning and Special Projects Manager, and member of the public Bill Kessler.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS ON NON-ACTION ITEMS

There were no petitions and communications on non-action items.

MESSAGES FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no messages from Board Members.

MESSAGES FROM THE MANAGER

Mr. May opened the meeting with an idea one of the Bloomington Transit drivers, Dan Mullis, approached us with to provide free fares for all veterans. Mr. Mullis said the idea came to him based on what the Indianapolis Public Transportation is doing as they recently developed a program where veterans ride free on their fixed route service. Included in the Board packet is a copy of the letter from Mr. Mullis and a copy of IndyGo's free fare application. He said Mr. Mullis is an Army veteran and he was interested in the possibility of Bloomington Transit doing something similar. Mr. May told Mr. Mullis that a conversation would be started at the Board level. Mr. May noted that he has asked IndyGo for information about what percentage of their ridership are veterans who are using the fare free pass just to give us an idea how much ridership we might get and have some gauge as to the financial impact it would have on our fare revenue. He said he does not have any numbers from IndyGo yet but when he gets them he will share them with the Board. He said he wanted to get any thoughts from the Board so that we can get the discussion going on this. Secretary McLary asked if the same discount would be done on BT Access. Mr. May said it is a possibility however he does not think that IndyGo is doing that but we could include BT Access. Chairman Obermeyer said would we be required to do it on BT Access as well. Mr. May said he didn't think so. Board Member Hartman said we could have a different fare rate for veterans as IndyGo charges two dollars. Mr. May said that Mr. Mullis said that if we do want to pursue something that Veteran's Day in November would be a good day to kick it off. He said he cannot give the Board a good estimate as to what impact it would have on our fare revenue and that is something the Board would want to consider in evaluating this. Mr. May asked the Board if they desire to take action on this before seeing any numbers. Secretary McLary said he still wonders about the BT Access as to whether or not we do it on BT Access. He said he thinks if we do it on the fixed route we should do it on BT Access also. Vice Chairman McDaniel said that could be very costly. Mr. May said the amount of the fare is one

tonight's meeting would be introduction and first reading of the proposed changes and the next meeting we would have second reading and adoption.

Mr. May said he wanted to update the Board on the Whitehall Crossing Shopping Center. He said earlier this year the shopping center came to us expressing concerns about damage to their privately owned internal roadways as allegedly caused by buses. After discussion with Whitehall Crossing Shopping Center we changed the route so as not to operate as much on the internal roadways but instead are now using their truck loading dock behind the Bed Bath and Beyond store. He said a month or two after we instituted that change, the owner came to us and said the buses are tearing up the driveways in that area even though it was built to accommodate heavier vehicles. He said Whitehall Crossing was pressing us for a solution and there was no good alternative solution. He said he was fearful of losing the service there and as a last resort asked the City Planning Department to research the approvals for the shopping center when it was approved in 1996.

This research yielded some very stringent requirements that were placed on Whitehall Crossing to provide access to transit vehicles. He said in the Board notes there are five conditions that were provided and it was very clear in the minutes of the Plan Commission meetings. These requirements from the City included: (1) consider any parking lot/driveway changes that are needed to effectively accommodate bus service; (2) construct a bus transfer station to the satisfaction of BPTC (developer cost not to exceed \$30,000); (3) ensure that internal roadways designated for bus traffic are designed to accommodate the weight, turning radius, and stopping needs of buses; (4) provide pavement markings for pedestrian crossings where necessary; (5) enter into an operating agreement with BPTC. He said staff reports clearly state that the owner was required to abide by these conditions as part of their approval of the project. He said we have checked our files including board minute meetings and other files and we find no evidence of any operating agreement that was ever entered into with them. He said he has asked legal counsel to check their files and so far they have not been able to come up with anything.

Mr. May said we have been running the service on Jacob Drive, Alexander Drive, and Gates Drive for 20 years now and he has to assume that was the agreement that was reached. He said he met yesterday with Whitney Gates the owner of the shopping center and shared this information with him. He said Mr. Gates's concern is the cost to repair the roads that he says is about \$350,000 to repair those roads and bring them up to standards to handle buses. He said the problem primarily is in the curve of Jacob Drive and then the ninety degree turn off of Jacob Drive onto Alexander Drive. He said he suggested that he talk to City Public Works to see how they build roads to heavy duty standards to accommodate vehicles so that they don't damage roads. He said he also knows that the City has used concrete on some of their streets instead of asphalt. Mr. Gates is going to check with Adam Wasson as to how they build the roads and then get back to me. Mr. May said he has communicated BPTC's desire to restore the service to the original route.

Mr. Huneck gave an overview of September ridership. He said September fixed route ridership was down 8.52 percent in September compared to September 2017. Year-to-date fixed route ridership is down 6 percent compared to the same period last year.

Mr. Huneck noted BT Access ridership was up 2.26 percent in September compared to September 2017. He said the year-to-date BT Access ridership was up 0.86 percent compared to the same period in 2017.

MESSAGES FROM THE CONTROLLER

Controller Browning gave an overview of the September Financial Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT – ACTION ITEMS

There was no public comment on actions items.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

Under New Business, Secretary McLary moved to approve Resolution 18-17; a resolution authorizing the BPTC Chair to execute an agreement with IU Health for an IU Health employee bus pass program. The motion was seconded by Board Member Hartman. The motion was approved unanimously.

Under New Business, Board Member Hartman moved to approve Resolution 18-18; a resolution authorizing the BPTC General Manager to purchase fuel through participation and commitment of the BPTC with Indiana University Campus Bus in a fixed price fuel purchase with the most responsive and responsible low bidder for 364,000 gallons of diesel fuel for the period November 1, 2018 through June 30, 2020. The motion was seconded by Secretary McLary. The motion was approved unanimously.

Under New Business, Vice Chairman McDaniel moved to Introduction and First Reading of Ordinance 18-02; an ordinance adopting revisions to the public code of conduct at the Downtown Transit Center and on BPTC vehicles.

OLD BUSINESS

Secretary McLary asked for an update on the route optimization study. Mr. May said the consultant is continuing the data collection process. He said they are finishing up the routes using the automatic passenger counters on the buses and they will soon have a good sample of data for all routes. He said we continue to have bi-weekly progress phone meetings with them to go over their data needs. He said they are working on the first chapter of the study which is the existing conditions and it should be out soon. Secretary McLary said have we had any discussions about the possibility of keeping those passenger counters on our buses. Mr. May said we haven't yet but will soon. Secretary McLary said he was thinking we could do that for all our NTD data collection.

MINUTES

The minutes for August 13, 2018 were presented for approval by Board Member Hartman and seconded by Secretary McLary. The minutes were approved unanimously.

The minutes for September 18, 2018 were presented for approval by Board Member Hartman and seconded by Secretary McLary. The minutes were approved unanimously.

CLAIMS

The claims for October 16, 2018 were presented for approval by Board Member Hartman and seconded by Secretary McLary. The claims were approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

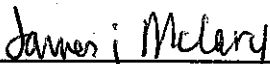
APPROVE:



Nancy Obermeyer, Chair
Board of Directors BPTC

01-22-19

ATTEST:



James J. McLary, Secretary
Board of Directors BPTC

01-22-19