

## Transportation Implementation Committee

May 23, 2017

Present: Gail Gallerie, Josh Tabak, Allan Bowdery, Harry Ellis, Marty Irwin and Tim Rodgers.

The Meeting opened at 7:00 pm At the village hall meeting room.

A motion to approve the minutes of April 25, 2017 meeting by Allan and seconded by Harry. The motion was approved unanimously.

### Chair Report:

Gail said:

A. "No new BPC reports or additional comments".

B. Loop reports reflect a diminishing ridership. Suggested reasons, student population have gone away for summer vacation. Better weather, riders might prefer to walk.

Loop Bus Meeting: Allan, Gail and Harry went to a meeting with Carol Hargrove director of the Ulster County Loop Buses. We took a ride around the campus noting: issues with the signage on the bus stop shelters and along Route 32 where the bus stop is located.

Proposal: A new weekend service to Minnewaska, Mohonk Preserve and the County Pool is being suggested. With stops at the County Pool, Gatehouse, Preserve Visitor's Center, Trapps and the entrance to Minnewaska State Park. Allan did a "rough run" to these locations with stops in the Village at Plattekill, Rt. 32, campus parking lot and the dorm bus stop area. He estimated one complete circle of this route to be between 45 minutes to 1 hour. We're thinking that we might be able to run the operation from April to October, weekends, 10 o'clock in the morning to a reasonable time in the evening. This would be a separate bus from the loop bus system and might cost an estimated 100K. Parking might be available in the Rt. 32 lot.

### Questions and Comments:

A. Would this option be better served by Trailways? Due to their lack of student summer travel, could they supplement their loss of ridership with daily trips to the Preserve and Minnewaska from the city with stops in the Village?

B. Could we use school buses from the New Paltz Schools to provide weekend transportation to these facilities?

Addendum: Harry called the School District Transportation office. He was told that a contract is currently in existence with the town "Office of the Aging" and they let the town use the school buses to transport seniors to various activities. If we could attach our project to that contract we might be able to use the school buses for transportation to the County Pool, Preserve and Minnewaska. It is a little pricey for the drivers \$27.00/hr. but you more than make up for it in the cost of bus operation. Besides, no new buses must be purchased to provide the ridership with these new routes.

## Old Business Updates:

A Taziaki parking space: The last parking space on Main St. before the parking lot entrance and in front of the Taziaki. When traveling east on Main St. traffic has to swerve to the right a few feet to miss the oncoming traffic. This is often difficult especially if the last parking space is occupied by a large vehicle. Recommendations: eliminate the parking space and use it for diverting the traffic. Marking the roadway with a dotted line to indicate a swerve to the right.

B. “No Stopping” signs on Main St. Suggestions: Replacing the “No Parking” signs with “No Stopping” signs. Having witnessed cars stopping and standing in the middle of Main St. while shopping the stores. Having seen a Trailways bus stopped at a diagonal in the middle of the Main St. intersection in front of Pavesi's Restaurant waiting for a car parked in the “No Parking” area to move. “No Parking” signs are not strong enough to demand that drivers not stop and/or stand in front of moving traffic.

C. Rail Trail Bridge: the grant money is available for the replacement of the access ramp to the old railroad/bike path bridge over the Wallkill on the Springtown Rd. side. There will be a temporary bridge/ramp built this year and a permanent bridge/ramp built by the middle of July, next year.

D. Thruway Survey: Scott Levine was not present to give a report on the Thruway Survey.

## New Business:

Meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm

Respectfully submitted.

Harry Ellis

NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

\*I hope you're all having a great summer.