

TRANSPORTATION DISADVANTAGED LOCAL COORDINATING BOARD

The Indian River County (IRC) Transportation Disadvantaged Local Coordinating Board (TDLCB) met at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, August 25, 2011 in the Building B, Conference Room "B1-501" of the County Administration Building, 1800 27th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Present were **William Lundy Parden**, Handicapped Representative; **Dr. Harry Hurst**, Citizen Advocate Representative; **Cindy Barnes**, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (FAHCA) Representative; **Kathleen "Cookie" Geyer**, Citizen Advocate Representative; **George Millar**, Public Education Representative; **Cathy Viggiano**, Florida Department of Education (FDE) Representative; **Jayne Pietrowski**, Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Representative; **Sue Rux**, Florida Association for Community Action (FACA)/Economic Opportunities Council (EOC) Representative; and **Donna Mihok**, Florida Department of Children and Families (FDC&F) Representative (arrived at 10:12 a.m.).

Absent were Chairman **Bob Solari**, IRC Commissioner; and **Joel Herman**, Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Representative, IRC; **Dalia Dillon**, Florida Department of Elderly Affairs (FDEA) Representative (all excused) and **Toni Teresi**, Seniors Representative; and **Laurie Sang**, State Coordinating Council of Early Childhood Services (CCECS) (unexcused).

Present was: **Karen Deigl** and **Karen Wood**, Senior Resource Association (SRA); and **Pat Geyer**, The Source (Camp Haven).

Also present were IRC staff: Phil Matson, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Staff Director; Brian Freeman, MPO Senior Planner; Sharon Schalm, MPO Staff Assistant III; and Misty L. Pursel, Commissioner Assistant, District 1.

Call to Order

Vice Chairman William Parden called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes of the May 26, 2011 Meeting

ON MOTION BY Mr. Hurst, SECONDED BY Ms. Barnes, the Board voted unanimously (8-0) to approve the minutes of May 26, 2011.

Presentation of Awards

Mr. Phil Matson, Metropolitan Planning Organization Staff Director announced acknowledgement for two state awards and a number of other certificates of recognition. He presented Mr. Parden with the Statewide Volunteer of the Year from the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantage, which provided the bulk of the funding for the door-to-door transit services in the County. He also presented the second award to Karen Deigl and Karen Wood of the Senior Resource Association with the Outstanding Community Transportation Coordinator of the Year.

New Business

TDLCB Chairman's Report:

There was not a report for this meeting.

Planning Status Report: *No action required.*

Ms. Deigl asked this Board for support of transit funding; especially operational funding, and continued sustainability for services in the future via letters and telephone calls to legislators and representatives. She mentioned being a member of the Florida Public Transit Association (FPTA) and one of the initiatives the Association took in the past two years was to create awareness for the legislators and to gain support for the public transit and to ensure they understood the need for public transit.

Ms. Deigl continued with an example of the awareness effort by Clear Light Consulting, a marketing firm who worked with FPTA and American Public Transit Association, by creating "I AM FOR TRANSIT". She said the goal was to obtain 100,000 individual signatures showing support for public transit. She passed around a sheet requesting contact information from each member which would be typed into the system, or could be was accessible online at www.IAMFORTRANSIT.org.

Ms. Deigl encouraged members, members' family and friends to go to the "I AM FOR TRANSIT" website and sign up to show support. She provided the ambassador code number of 49673 to be used when at the website, which gave the GoLine credit for the sign ups.

Mrs. Schalm announced the arrival of a new member Donna Mihok representing Department of Children and Family Services (10:12 a.m.).

Dr. Hurst requested information on the new hub location. Mr. Matson advised he met with Vero Beach City Council on August 16, 2011 to discuss the proposed site of a new hub located on the south side of 17th Street, bordered by the Florida East Coast Railway tracks, in an industrial corridor of Vero Beach.

Mr. Matson listed the following reasons this location was ideal:

- No residential conflicts
- Close to downtown Vero Beach
- Close to Vero Beach High School

Mr. Matson indicated the anticipated contract signing with the City of Vero Beach for the new location could go towards a local match for grant funds. He said there was good access to the location; however, it would need to be paved from the ground up and the construction of an onsite facility, such as a bathroom, to accommodate the riders.

Ms. Deigl said the location was approved in concept, with at least a year at the minimum, before moving the current location to the new location. She mentioned the contract would be with the County, not with Senior Resource Association and any liability insurance would be a part of the contract.

Ms. Deigl said in her discussions with individual city council members she had expressed her desire for a dollar-a-year lease for a minimum of 30 years.

Mr. Matson told the Board he would like to see a 50/50 match from the Department of Transportation, with the county offering the land at no cost.

Mr. Pietrowski said she had never seen a donation used as a local match such as the one proposed; however, it sounded very feasible and likely it would be acceptable.

Ms. Pat Geyer, Project Manager for Camp Haven with The Source mentioned The Source's gift shop, Heaven Sent, was down the street from the proposed hub and would be greatly utilized by the homeless individuals who were working. She confirmed The Source's support for this project.

Mr. Matson referred to the flyer entitled "Looking for Safe, Reliable Transportation in Florida?", a part of the agenda packet, which is on file in the Commission Office. He referred to the website: www.safeandmobileseniors.org/findaride.htm as a database for transportation options for seniors.

Community Transportation Coordinator Status Report

Ms. Wood recapped her report, which is on file in the Commission Office. Highlights were as follows:

- Community Coach door-to-door services provided approximately 9,530 one way trips in this reporting quarter; a 21% decrease from the same reporting quarter as last year.
- GoLine public transportation provided approximately 232,588 one way trips in the first quarter of this year; a 24% increase from the same reporting quarter as last year.
- Eight new bus shelters installed, 12 new locations were being worked on throughout Indian River County. Installation was expected in October, 2011.
- The Transportation Disadvantage (TD) Commission consulted the firm Thomas Howell Ferguson to prepare the bi-annual TD monitoring, wherein four minimal findings and two simple suggestions were made.
- Community Coach's website was under construction and was expected to be online within two months.
- Karen Somerset was the new interim Executive Director for the TD Commission, with applications being reviewed for a new Executive Director.

Review of Progress Report and Reimbursement of Invoice #4 for the 2010/11 Planning Grant

Mr. Brian Freeman, MPO Senior Planner, summarized his memorandum dated August 16, 2011, regarding the invoice and progress report representing the planning grant period for the fourth quarter of 2010/11, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

ON MOTION BY Mr. Millar, SECONDED BY Ms. Barnes, the members voted unanimously (9-0) to approve the submitted progress report and Invoice #4 for the 2010/11 Planning Grant.

Review of Draft Annual Actual Expenditures Report

Mr. Matson explained this report was an annual requirement prepared this time each year, explaining the annual expenditures on the coordinating transportation only; omitting Medicaid and fixed route expenses. He reported the

local funding expenditures as \$135,273.84, providing 21,277 one-way trips, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

ON MOTION BY, Ms. Rux, SECONDED BY Ms. Barnes the members voted unanimously (9-0) to approve the Actual Expenditure Report.

Mr. Matson mentioned a review/evaluation comprised of member of this Board were to meet upon adjournment of the TDLCB. He also mentioned a volunteer was needed to ride along and fill out an onboard survey of the transportation system. Cookie Geyer confirmed she had already completed the onboard survey for this year.

Other New Business

Ms. Pietrowski explained the 5310 grant program was a federal grant providing vehicles for non-profit agencies who worked with the elderly and the disabled community. She announced a scheduled workshop on Monday, November 14, 2011, at the DOT facility in West Palm Beach and would be sending out official notices within the near future.

Ms. Pietrowski further explained the workshop was for the purposes of recruiting new nonprofit agencies who had never benefitted from the grant before. She continued anyone who knew an agency who worked with the elderly or disabled community who may be interested in the grant, please forward their name and contact information to her. She was also looking for volunteers needed as mentors to assist individuals with the grants.

Ms. Pietrowski announced as a result of the TD conference, contact was made with the Ambassador, Joanne Hutchinson, with United We Ride regarding a regional human service transportation summit in Palm Beach in 2012, assisted by the DOT. She asked if anyone would be interested in joining a organizational committee.

Mr. Matson and Ms. Deigl expressed their interest and inquired on what made up the region. Ms. Pietrowski said that was one of the questions needing the organizational committee's comments and direction. She also provided the following items were to be worked through the committee:

- Focus on the grant programs
- Emerging issues
- Needs
- Best management practices of alter transportation

A discussion ensure regarding what could make up the region, funding and certifications.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.