

**PVTA
Pioneer
Valley
Transit
Authority**

**Administrative Headquarters
Old North Main St. Firehouse
2808 Main Street
Springfield, MA 01107
(413) 732-6248**

**MINUTES OF PVTA'S
PARATRANSIT COMMITTEE MEETING
May 24, 2016**

The Paratransit Committee meeting of the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority was held on Tuesday, May 24th, 2016 at the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority Office located at 2808 Main Street in Springfield, MA, at 3:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Carolyn Brennan, East Longmeadow; Brian O'Leary, Belchertown; Paul Burns Johnson, Palmer; Steve Huntley, Chicopee; Mark Gold, Longmeadow; Marilyn Ishler, South Hadley;

Other's Present: Mary MacInnes, PVTA; Josh Rickman, PVTA; Brandy Lamour, PVTA; Price Armstrong, PVTA; Robin St. Amand, PVTA, David Elvin, PVPC, Hulmes Transportation;

NOT PRESENT:

Paula Dubord, Wilbraham; Becky Moriarty, Hampden; Richard Theroux, Agawam;

A quorum being present, Chairperson of the Paratransit Committee, Carolyn Brennan, called the meeting of the Paratransit Committee to order at 3:06 P.M.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 29, 2016 PARATRANSIT COMMITTEE MEETING

Chairperson Brennan asked for a motion from the Paratransit Committee to approve the meeting minutes from the Paratransit Committee meeting held on March 29, 2016.

Motion: Moved and seconded (O'Leary/Huntley) to approve the minutes of March 29, 2016 Paratransit Committee Meeting.

Chairperson Brennan asked if there was any discussion. Hearing none. Asked for all those in favor to say aye.

Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

2. SPLIT FLEET SERVICE PLAN UPDATE

Josh Rickman, Manager of Planning and Operations stated that PVTA plans to roll out the split service fleet on July 18, 2016. PVTA is currently conducting testing of this service delivery to ensure a smooth roll over. This testing includes that the mobile data terminals will function normally and that an adequate spare ration will be provided to both fleets. Identifying an adequate spare ratio is paramount for the senior van service. PVTA plans to provide an ample spare ratio to accommodate any growth that may be required during the year.

3. COUNCIL ON AGING PILOT PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Rickman reported the following:

PVTA plans to roll out the COA pilot program on October 1, 2016. The participating communities include Northampton, Longmeadow, Hampden and East Longmeadow. Since PVTA is providing these communities with operating subsidies, PVTA will need to add a new fare to the fare structure. In order to accommodate this new fare a fare equity analysis will need to be conducted.

Work that will be accomplished during this next month includes a meeting with the four participating communities. At this meeting the proposed fares and the service availability will be discussed (fare, hours, days, etc.). The information gathered from this meeting will be used to conduct the fare equity analysis. It is important to note that this pilot is the first step to the long term recommendation of the paratransit comprehensive service analysis of having multi providers. While the recommendation includes multi providers for the ADA service, this service model also can be translated to the senior van service.

4. DETERMINATION OF ADA SERVICE HOURS

Mr. Rickman reported the following:

The current method for ADA pick up times has:

- Fixed Route Comparability; Many long-haul paratransit trips, if taken by fixed route, would take several hours and involve several transfers
- Cost; These long trips tend to be the most expensive to provide
- Efficiency; These long trips degrade the overall efficiency of the system by taking vans well outside their home territory.

The solution is to:

- Create town-by-town origin and destination matrices showing the earliest possible departure and latest possible departure from each town to each town.
- Reservations will use this as a tool to more accurately schedule trips.
- Most communities will not be affected, it primarily impacts communities far removed from one another.

Chairperson Brennan asked if the committee had any questions or comments for Mr. Rickman.

Paul Burns Johnson asked if Palmer would be included in the Saturday service addition.

Mr. Rickman stated that there would not be Saturday service in communities that currently do not have service on Saturdays. Saturday van service will be the same hours as the fixed route service.

Paul Burns Johnson asked to hear input from staff that deals with ADA service.

Carolyn Brennan stated she agrees with Mr. Burns and would like to visit Hulmes to see how people interact and what their workday is like.

Steve Huntley stated that the new fare structure amount for the vans should not be lower than the fixed route fare.

Chairperson Brennan stated that we are running short on time and asked if the committee had any additional questions or comments.

Paul Burns Johnson made the motion for PVRTA to continue gathering information on the proposed changes to discuss further.

Motion: Moved and seconded (Burns Johnson/Huntley) to have PVRTA continue gathering information on the proposed changes to discuss further.

Chairman Brennan asked if there was any discussion, hearing none, asked for all those in favor to say aye.

Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Chairperson Brennan reported that there is no other business to discuss.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Paratransit Committee Meeting adjourned (Gold/Huntley) at 3:55 P.M.

A TRUE RECORD

ATTEST:


BRANDY LAMOUR

Documents filed with Paratransit Committee Meeting packet:

- Paratransit Minutes from 3-29-16 Meeting

