

Triangle Transit Authority Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2007

Board Room, 68 T.W. Alexander Drive
Research Triangle Park, NC

Board Members Present:

Anne S. Franklin
Alice Gordon
Bob Hinshaw
Sig Hutchinson
Jeff Merritt
Ellen Reckhow

William G. Smith (arr. 1:25 p.m.)
Kenneth Spaulding (arr. 1:15 p.m., left 2:45 p.m.)
Bill Strom
Nina Szlosberg
M. Carter Worthy

Board Members Absent:

Bill Bell (excused)

Staff Present:

Laurie Barrett
Dilcy Burton
Michelle Dawson
Brian Fahey
Saundra Freeman
Damien Graham
Sylvester Goodwin

David King
Maurice McGhee
Greg Northcutt
Brad Schulz
Juanita Shearer-Swink
John Tallmadge

Chair Alice Gordon called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

I. Adoption of Agenda

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Reckhow the agenda was adopted. The motion was carried unanimously.

II. Recognition

A. Introduction of New Hires

General Manager David King noted several new bus operators who have been hired: Lawrence Moreland, Michael Alston, Myra McDonald and Roger Gregory; as well as parts and inventory assistant Daniel Roach.

B. Announcement of Promotions

King also noted that Darrin Terrell had been promoted to Maintenance Supervisor. King announced that Tonya Dupree will be transferring from Bus Operations to the Finance Department in February.

III. Public Hearings

None.

IV. Public Comment

None.

V. Consent Agenda

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Worthy the consent agenda was adopted. The motion was carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda items were approved:

- December 20, 2006 - Regular Session Minutes;
- December 20, 2006 – Closed Session A Minutes;
- December 20, 2006 – Closed Session B Minutes;
- Resolutions authorizing the execution of grant agreements for advanced technology program grants funding with NCDOT and commitment of local matching funds (2007 0001 and 2007 0002);
- Resolution authorizing the execution of grant agreement with NCDOT and commitment of local matching funds (2007 0003); and
- Resolution authorizing financial consulting services contract for RBG Associates, LLC (2007 0004).

VI. Presentations

A. Triangle Tomorrow

Chair Gordon recognized Pam Wall, Executive Director of Triangle Tomorrow, who explained that the group is a program of the Research Triangle Regional Partnership which strives to bring business and community leaders together to improve the quality of life in the region. She said that Triangle Tomorrow has a new Website, www.TriangleTomorrow.org, and offers a quarterly newsletter. She noted several new projects: a regional advisory council of all gold level members which meets twice per year to look at regional issues and working to grow the Triangle Leadership Academy. Wall also said that Triangle Tomorrow is interested in a land use project called Reality Check through the Urban Land Institute (ULI).

Wall then updated the Board on its air quality projects managing the Triangle Air Awareness Program and working with the SmartCommute Challenge.

Spaulding arrived.

Szlosberg expressed her support for Triangle Tomorrow and requested an opportunity to share information on the transit infrastructure blueprint project with the Triangle Tomorrow Board of Directors. Worthy suggested that the Regional Advisory Council might be the better audience. She then commented that the ULI project would be valuable for the region.

Smith arrived.

Gordon then asked the Board's permission to allow a member of the public that had arrived late to make public comment. The Board consented to allow the comment.

Gordon then recognized Graham T. Olive, Jr. who asked about regular service to Holly Springs, Wake Forest about Knightdale as well as bus service to Mebane. He also suggested that Johnston County Commissioners should be approached about daily bus service to Clayton. Olive also suggested additional funding for increased service including evenings and holidays and a local option sales tax for regional rail.

Gordon responded that the two MPOs are undergoing a transit visioning process which will include bus service. She said the process will take several months. She asked staff to respond to Olive's specific questions about service.

VII. General Business Agenda

A. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

None.

B. Personnel Committee Report

None.

C. Planning & Legislative Committee Report

Committee Chair Nina Szlosberg reported that the Committee received updates on the seamless transportation project and the regional transportation development plan. She said the regional call center is scheduled to open March 6.

1. Professional Services for Regional Blueprint

Szlosberg then presented a request from staff for authorization to enter into contracts with outside consultants to assist with cost projections for the regional blueprint. She said the Committee recommended that the Board approve the procurement of professional services for cost estimating associated with the regional blueprint up to \$100,000. Szlosberg noted that TTA will seek funding of 50% from NCDOT.

Action: Reckhow made a motion, which was seconded by Hutchison, to approve the procurement of professional services for cost estimating associated with the regional blueprint up to \$100,000.

Hinshaw asked the timeframe. General Manager King said that staff hopes to be finished by the end of the summer, but at least by the end of the calendar year.

Action: Upon vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

D. Operations & Finance Committee Report

Committee Chair Bill Strom said the Committee received updates on the Strategic Plan for Bus, Vanpool and Paratransit and discussed the recommendations from the auditor's management letter. He said information will be forthcoming.

E. Extension of NCCR ROW Usage Agreement

Dilcy Burton noted a copy of the executed agreement, which is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. She noted that the agreement extends the deadline to

meet certain requirements and make a \$15 million payment to NCRB until January 1, 2008. She said the deadline for insurance information requested is extended until March 1, 2007; and for a survey of the rail project, January 1, 2008. The agreement adds language that TTA will send NCRB a copy of its yearly audit and key correspondence with FTA, NCDOT and the two MPOs as well as giving NCRB reasonable advance notice and opportunity to review any new or future joint development agreements. Burton added that a request for an informal joint Board working group between NCRB and TTA be created.

Action: On motion by Worthy and second by Reckhow the Board ratified the agreement between TTA and NCRB. The motion was carried unanimously.

Worthy and Hutchinson volunteered to serve on the joint working group. Gordon suggested the Operations & Finance Committee would be the appropriate group from which to select the joint group.

F. Board Travel Requests

Gordon noted that two Board members have been allowed to attend any one event. She said there has been a request by three Board members to attend two different events.

Action: On motion by Franklin and second by Reckhow the Board approved the attendance by three people for the APTA Legislative Conference and the Raleigh Chamber Inter-City Visit and Leadership Conference. The motion was carried unanimously.

Merritt requested that arrangements be made for extended tours and discussions with transit staff in Albuquerque. Worthy suggested that the General Manager participate in the Inter-City Visit. Hinshaw asked about the budget. Clerk to the Board Dawson responded that other line items within the Board's budget should cover any anticipated overage.

VIII. Other Business

A. General Manager's Report

David King offered the following:

- He commended the General Counsel for the NCRB agreement.
- The biggest project at present is the regional blueprint. He suggested that ITRE could assist with administrative and logistical support services needed.
- He offered commendations to the TAC leaders of the two MPOs for coming to agreement on the advisory committee.
- He said he and the General Counsel are working with NCBOT to develop a bridge agreement to serve as an interim contract between NCDOT and TTA, which would add to and update the state FFGA since that document is predicated on the pursuit of a New Starts project.
- Staff is scheduling a conference call with FTA counsel regarding guidance issued on the Public Private Partnership Pilot Program. He said two slots are reserved for

projects still actively in the New Starts process, but the program is geared towards design build type projects.

- The General Manager, Board Member Anne Franklin and staff met with the Wake Forest mayor, town manager and others about their need for transit service.
- The Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA) met and discussed legislative priorities: gap funding for the toll road and preservation of TTA funding. He said there was some discussion about local option taxing.
- The General Manager noted an article from *Light Rail Now!* On Randal O'Toole's "Thoreau Institute."
- The General Manager also noted other meetings with key leaders in the region.
- He said that materials from the presentation by *Reconnecting America* have been provided at Board member's places.

Szlosberg noted that many people are interested in the transit vision and want to help. She suggested that the Board discuss how to include them and keep them in the information loop. Reckhow asked about the public outreach process related to the regional blueprint. Gordon responded that there are few resources for public outreach.

Hutchinson requested notification when the Maser Development Agreement has been signed.

C. Chair's Report

Alice Gordon reported that the chairs and vice chairs of the two MPOs had met to discuss the composition of the special advisory commission for transit. She said that the Committee should be appointed and have its first meeting by April. The report to the joint MPOs meeting is scheduled for the end of October.

Szlosberg suggested that the State's public involvement unit could be used for databases and mailings and also that perhaps NCDOT may have funds to help support the effort.

Worthy asked about the criteria for being appointed to the advisory commission. Gordon responded that each MPO can appoint whomever, but the tendency would be not to appoint elected officials. Worthy stated that she hoped the group would be balanced with broad-minded persons that want the best for the community. Franklin stated that she asked CAMPO to include at least one user of the system. She suggested that the Board officially make that request.

Spaulding left.

Action: On motion by Worthy and second by Smith the Board voted to refer to the Planning & Legislative Committee a discussion about the strategic response to deal with the regional blueprint process related to public outreach and education. The motion was carried unanimously.

Szlosberg suggested that that MPOs be included in the discussion. Worthy said she felt the first step should be TTA determining what it needs to do and then collaborating with the MPOs. Gordon agreed that this is part of TTA's mission and not intended to usurp the MPOs' authority.

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Merritt the Board requested a report from the General Manager before the next Board meeting on the status of the regional blueprint process, including a timeline. The motion was carried unanimously.

Action: A motion was made by Franklin, and seconded by Hutchinson, to request that a transit user be appointed to the special advisory committee for transit.

Action: Reckhow offered an amended motion, which was seconded by Franklin, to request that the MPO chairs coordinate appointments relating to major regional organizations, such as the Regional Transportation Alliance, the RDU Airport Authority, Triangle Tomorrow and Triangle Transit Authority, and that people on the group be knowledgeable about transportation and transit.

Action: Upon vote, the amended motion was carried unanimously.

B. General Counsel's Report

Dilcy Burton noted on behalf of the General Counsel work on the interim agreement with NCDOT, conclusion of the bus parking contract during maintenance facility expansion, lease amendments, an interlocal agreement for paratransit service, title searches and title binders. She reported the Southern Leasing case has been settled for \$1.10 million and a mediation is set for March 9 for the Burton Wilcox property condemnation.

D. Board Member Reports

1. CAMPO TAC Representative

Anne Franklin reported that CAMPO discussed the transportation improvement program for 2009 to 2015, the transit infrastructure blueprint and advisory committee, and received an update on bicycle and pedestrian transportation planning. She added that CAMPO staff prepared a comparison of State gas tax revenues and where the money is being spent. She said the results showed a loading of expenditures in other than metropolitan counties and subsequently the CAMPO TAC unanimously approved a resolution requesting that the State Auditor look at NCDOT funding of projects to determine if the funds are being distributed according to the current equity formula.

2. DCHC TAC Representative

Bill Strom reported that the key TTA issue was the advisory group for the regional blueprint. He said DCHC endorsed the DCHC TAC chair and vice chair selecting 10 members for TAC approval.

3. Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA) Representative

Carter Worthy added to the General Manager's comments about this meeting that Rep. Luebke scolded the group for not having a more aggressive transit agenda.

The Board suggested that the Planning & Legislative Committee discuss a possible legislative agenda.

E. New Business

Gordon noted attendance reports for 2006 at member's places and encouraged members to speak with the Clerk to the Board if there are questions. She noted that according to the Board's recently adopted attendance policy the report would be sent to appointing jurisdictions.

Gordon also noted that the General Manager's work plan would be discussed at the February 6 Personnel Committee meeting. She also asked Board members to think about the agenda for the March 22 Board work session.


Franklin requested that the Board endorse looking at new opportunities for serving the airport more directly, specifically from Raleigh to the airport. The Board agreed by consensus.

IX. Closed Session(s)

None.

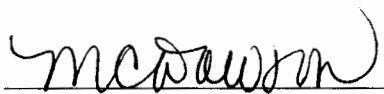
X. Adjournment

Action: On motion by Strom and second by Hinshaw the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.



Alice Gordon, Chair

Attest:



Michelle C. Dawson, CMC
Clerk to the TTA Board