

Transit Advisory Committee
Wednesday, October 17, 2018
Visalia Transit Center
425 E. Oak Avenue
Visalia, CA 93291

Action Minutes:

September 19, 2018

Meeting called to order: 5:30 PM

MEMBERS ATTENDING: Chairperson: Michael Esquibel (ME), Vice Chairperson: Karen Varner (KV), Derek Davis (DD), Glen Stewart (GS), Ed Jones (EJ), and Jim Runyon (JR)

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Albert Aguilera (AA)

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Melody Murch (MM) and Rocio Stiner (RS)

GUESTS: Barbara Barns (BB) and Wanda Irons (WI)

CALL TO ORDER:

- ME called the meeting to order and asked all attendees to introduce themselves in seating order.
- MM introduced Rocio Stiner, the new Transit Office Assistant who will be working with the Greenline staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

WI stated she used to live in Porterville and has moved to Visalia. She has trouble getting back and forth to visit family in Porterville due to the recently reduced Visalia Transit (VT) service hours. She also knows of other transit customers who need earlier buses and would like VT to consider returning the cut buses to service, along with adding additional service hours. WI stated she understands the limitation of funding but is requesting a return to the service levels before the runs were cut in August 2018.

BB stated that she has heard from lots of customers that the recent service cuts are a problem for them.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 15, 2018 MINUTES: DD motioned to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by JR. Motion approved 6-0.

REVIEW MONTHLY REPORTS: The Visalia Transit, MV and Marketing Reports were reviewed by TAC members prior to the meeting. No changes were requested and no action was taken.

TAC MEMBERSHIP REDUCTION FROM 9 MEMBERS + 2 ALTERNATES to 7 MEMBERS + 2 ALTERNATES:

Discussion was held on the topic of reducing the membership of the TAC due to the inability to fully fill nine (9) positions over the years. The full membership participated in the discussion and comments were made in favor of this idea. A motion was made by GS to recommend the reduction of the TAC membership from 9 members and 2 alternates down to 7 members and 2 alternates. The motion was seconded by JR. The motion passed 6-0.

2017/18 RIDERSHIP REPORT:

MM brought a summary of the ridership for the 2017/18 Fiscal Year, along with comparisons to prior years to show trends on the various routes. JR asked about the large increase in Route 16 ridership and a discussion was had about this newer route and the ridership in relation to the other routes. No changes were requested and no action was taken.

HOLLY TROLLEY SERVICE CHANGES:

MM brought a summary of the actual Holly Trolley expenses from the 2018 Holiday Season and a projection of the costs for this service to be provided in the 2018 Season. A discussion was held on the cost benefit of this service and that the popularity is largely due to the aesthetic the Trolley gives to the Downtown, rather than any actual need for the service. JR moved for the TAC to recommend the City no longer provide this service. The motion was seconded by DD. The motion passed 6-0.

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

- Update on Draft Service Denial Policy: MM brought the Draft to the Disability Advocacy Committee (DAC) at their September 10, 2018 meeting. They will review the Draft and bring back recommendations to their October 8, 2018 meeting.
- Next meeting at Ops Facility: MM reminded the membership the next meeting will be held at the Operations Facility.
- Turnover Update: MM gave an update on the status of the Operations and Maintenance contract turnover from MV to First Transit (FT) which will happen on October 1, 2018.
- Transit Manager Position: MM announced the Transit Manager position is now open and applications are due by 5:00pm on October 8, 2018.

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- A presentation from the new operations contractor, First Transit, which starts service on October 1, 2018, has been requested for the October 2018 meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Melody Murch.

Committee Attendance (last 12 months)

Member Name	Oct 2017	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Apr 2018	May 2018	June 2018	July 2018	Aug 2018	Sep 2018	12-month Absences
Albert Aguilera	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	A	A	3
Derek Davis	P	A	A	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	3
Ed Jones	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	1
Glen Stewart	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	1
Jim Runyon					P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	0
Karen Varner	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	0
Michael Esquibel	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	0

“In order for a commission/committee to meet, conduct business and take action, a quorum must be present. A quorum is generally defined as a majority (one more than half) of appointed members to the particular advisory body.” As such, the Transit Advisory Committee, which currently has seven appointed positions, must have a minimum of four members present to reach a quorum.

Effective April 1, 2012, excessive absenteeism, which is defined to mean missing three consecutive regular meetings or four regular meetings in a 12 month period, shall constitute resignation of the member and the member shall be considered removed from the advisory board.