

**Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority
Advisory Board Meeting
Via Zoom
September 23, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.**

Minutes

A meeting of the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority Advisory Board was held on Wednesday, September 23, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. via video conferencing. The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Bob Lawton, Chairman.

Board members present were: George Slade, Bourne; Bob Lawton, Yarmouth; Mark Ells, Barnstable; Bud Dunham, Sandwich; Dorothy Voelker, Yarmouth Port; Erin Ellis, Provincetown; Judi Wilson, Orleans; Peter Lombardi, Brewster; Griffin Ryder, Harwich, Brenda Vazquez, Dennis; Sam Patterson, Falmouth.

Others present included: Thomas Cahir, CCRTA; Henry Swiniarski, Chris Kennedy, CCRTA; CCRTA; Kathy Jensen, CCRTA; Noah Berger, CCRTA.

A 76.4% quorum was determined.

I. Minutes of May 20, 2020 Advisory Board Meeting

Judi Wilson moved that the minutes be approved as presented. Dorothy Voelker seconded. Sam Patterson and Erin Ellis abstained. **Approved.**

II. Reports

Tom Cahir began by pointing out that the board documents included an updated briefing book. Sam Patterson offered that this document was extremely informative and comprehensive. Tom continued explaining the health and safety precautions the Cape Cod RTA is undertaking in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. He then described the financial impacts the pandemic has produced and mentioned the funding we are receiving through the Cares Act. Sam Patterson added that he heard the funding will be ending in October and asked if there will be financial impact. Tom stated that because of the funding from the Cares act and the way we're investing those funds, he doesn't anticipate any further impact. He continued and mentioned our participation with the Cape Cod Reopening Task Force and that we provide them with weekly updates from our multi-modal partners. He highlighted items included in the Board documents that were previously sent out, including:

- The Buzzards Bay stakeholder meetings and the new service that went into effect on September 8, 2020.

- Status update on SmartDART and the successful launch stating there have been over 60 downloads of the app in the first 2 weeks.
- Transportation Security Administration (TSA) rating we received which surpassed the national average in the areas of
- Climate Change podcast participation
- Human Service Transportation under Linda Landry's direction and how she has proficiently handled the strict guidelines under the pandemic.
- RTA Annual Town Reports to be sent this week.

III. Advisory Board:

No Committees met since the last Board meeting.

IV. New Business – Bob Lawton noted that George Slade had shown interest in Vice Chairmanship and asked if anyone else would like to submit their intention. There were no other nominations. **Bud Dunham made a motion to elect George Slade as Vice Chair. Sam Patterson seconded. Approved unanimously.**

Judi Wilson asked about ridership compared to last year. Tom answered the numbers across the state has declined by about 80% in May, 70% in June and July and August showed a decrease of 63%.

Sam Patterson thanked Tom for the vans we donated to the Falmouth COA and noted that it has been an invaluable service to the senior population in their community.

Judi then noted the number of no shows on the DART system and asked if there was any information that the COA's could share through their newsletters. She said the service is essential and understands it is not very cost effective. Tom said we would be offering information and that he pays close attention to the number of no shows. George Slade wanted to mention that the no shows have decreased significantly over the years and asked if the SmartDART could complement the DART service. Tom responded saying that this opportunity is forthcoming. Bud Dunham noted that any other board would have eliminated this service and that because it is so essential, we have had to find a way to make it work and that every year it gets more efficient. Sam Patterson added that he can give a personal testimony to the critical need of this service being a former DART driver.

Bob welcomed 2 new members, Erin Ellis from Provincetown and Roslyn Diamond from Eastham.

V. Old Business - none

VI. Public Questions/Concerns - none

VII. Adjournment

Dorothy Voelker moved to adjourn, Sam Patterson seconded, roll call vote approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.