

Minutes of September 19, 2017 Columbia County Rider Transportation Advisory Committee (CCRTAC)

In attendance:

Sharon Evinger - Chair
Genell Grow – Past Chair
Bill Eagle – Vice Chair
Claudia Eagle
Ralph Culpepper – Resident
Alta Lynch - Resident
Michael Ray – CC Rider Staff
Chad Mace – CC Rider Staff
Danny Hernandez – MTR Ops Mgr

Meeting Commenced at 6:30 PM.

ITEM 1: Welcome and Introductions.

Sharon opened the meeting and Began introductions. She welcomed everyone.

ITEM 2: Bill Eagle motioned for the July 18 minutes to be approved. Sharron moved and Genell seconded. Passed unanimously.

ITEM 3: The Education Committee is scheduled to meet prior to the October TAC and will have an update then.

ITEM 4: Michael Announced the winner of the Seniors and Vets on Transit raffle. The winner was E Semeryk of Scappoose. She had ridden the bus numerous times throughout the summer.

ITEM 5: Michael gave an update on the Rainier Transit Center. The RFP is complete and ready to go and will be released to the public on Sept 20, with proposals due October 18th. Michael stated he expects work to begin in early December.

ITEM 6: There was some discussion concerning the status of the Bylaws. Michael indicated that earlier in the summer, the Commission had questions concerning the make-up of the TAC and would like a minor language tweaks. He stated that the changes weren't substantial and he just needs to sit down, go over it and make the recommended changes. He will then bring it back to the TAC for review and approval before re-submitting to the Commissioners for adoption.

Item 7: The TAC discussed problems with getting participation from the senior centers concerning the 5-area lunch. There was much discussion about how demographics have changed over the last few years, continuing a trend of aging in place. Seniors today are not so interested in meeting at senior centers because they have more personal interests. Seniors are living longer and not needing the services senior centers have traditionally supplied in the past. Sharon mentioned that both the Scappoose and St Helens Senior Centers are having difficulties in maintaining membership at both locations.

While there was agreement that seniors are important to our purpose, CC Rider needs to also focus even more in building our commuter service. Michael explained that commuters make up the majority of CC Rider passengers; whether they are going to Portland for work, or Washington County for school.

ITEM 8: Michael opened the discussion concerning the Oregon Transit Association's annual conference being held in Pendleton on October 1-4. Michael indicated that both he and Chad would be attending and that there was still one full scholarship and many partial scholarships available. Sharon really would like to go, but because of the distance she didn't feel that it would be a good idea for her.

While everyone was interested, they all agreed that Danny should attend.

ITEM 9: Sharon and Charlotte discussed the possibility of having Master Gardeners cover the Transit Center landscaping. Master Gardening attendees need to do a project and Charlotte thinks that the Transit Center would be a good candidate. She is going to check into it.

Chad has been gathering bids for professional landscape companies to do the work. Out of three contacts, he only received one bid. One contractor declined saying the job was too large as he is very busy at the moment. The third contractor was non-responsive. Because CC Rider still hasn't received the funding necessary to cover the cost, getting a contractor on-board has not been a priority yet.

Motion to Adjourn was made at 8:30, moved and seconded.