



Board Meeting

MEETING NOTES

May 10, 2023

Present: Dan Bower, Carl Jackson, Ethan Melone, Bill Umbenhaur, Henry Ikwut-Ukwa, Shellie Gin, David McDonald, Michael White, Janet Yeow, DJ Baxter, and Andrew Pambeck

1. Latest Headlines and Industry News – Board Members

Opportunity for board members to provide news on their organization or projects.

We started off the meeting by thanking our outgoing board members: Terry Nash, DJ Baxter, Curtis Ailes, Jon Schlagel, and Andrew Plambeck. We also congratulated Erik Yingling on his retirement. The remaining amount of Erik's term will be filled by Jennifer DeLong with Stacy and Witbeck.

Portland had a successful Mobile Music Festival on the streetcar. Carl noted that El Paso's Trolley Tracks also put music on the streetcar and was a great way to experience the music. DJ noted that when Salt Lake City streetcar tried to do something similar that the lawyers wouldn't let them. Dan and Carl noted that it is sometimes good to forget to ask.

Tucson City Council extended free fares through December for all transit modes and is looking for partners that drive transit ridership to help cover the costs so that this policy may continue.

Charlotte Area Transit System, like most transit agencies, is struggling to fill vacancies. The rate of training is not keeping up with the rate of attrition, so CATS is seeking contractor help in filling positions like operators, control center employees, etc. David thanked those agencies that had helped him with this process.

2. Budget

Please see the attached PowerPoint slides for the proposed FY 23-24 Budget.

The motion to adopt the budget was made by Dan Bower, seconded by Carl Jackson, and all present voted in favor of passing the budget.

3. Bird Advocacy and Consulting Contract

Please see the attached copy of the Contract between CSC and Bird Advocacy and Consulting.

Dan Bower explained the edits to the previous contract. A motion to adopt was made by Bill Umbenhaur, seconded by Shellie Gin, and all present voted in favor of approving the contract.

4. Summit

1. Survey Results-Included in the board packet but not reviewed during the meeting.

2. **Final Accounting**-Kristin Jenkins went over the budget and actual amounts spent during the Oklahoma City Summit. She noted efforts to save money and the results of having a positive balance of just over \$6,000. See the board packet for details.

3. **Charlotte**

- **Tentative April 7-9 or 14-16**-Kristin Jenkins noted that she is working with David and his team to secure dates at the Charlotte Convention Center. Sunday-Tuesday, as well as Monday-Wednesday dates, are being considered.
- **Summit Planning Committee**-A request was made for members to join the Summit Planning Committee. Bill asked about the time commitment, which varies based on the time of the year, ramping up at the end of the year and the beginning of the year of the Summit.
- **Conference Center with Room Block at a nearby hotel**-If the Convention Center is available the dates requested, then CSC will seek a room block at a nearby hotel. As there are several hotels nearby, if there are thoughts on the type of hotel or distance from the Convention Center, please send a note to christy@streetcarcoalition.org.
- **Dan Bower** reminded the group that Applications for Hosting the next Summit are now being accepted through May 31. There was a blurb with an attached link in May's newsletter. The City of Cincinnati, City of Kansas City have submitted applications, and the City of Portland is working on their application.

5. **June Virtual Summit**

Preparing for the next virtual summit. The proposed topic is Equitable Transit Oriented Development.

AECOM has provided a TOD expert, Steven Duong, who will give a short presentation and lead the panel in discussion. Shellie Gin noted that Tucson has received an E-TOD grant and would be happy to provide input through the Project Manager, Ian Sansom. Other potential panelists include, Portland, Kansas City, DC, Denver, and Milwaukee. The board will be informed of the full panel as soon as the event is finalized.

6. **Working Groups**

- **Membership**-Board Member Lead-Carl Jackson, staffed by Christy Willhite-Carl noted that the group is working to recruit new members as well as improve the satisfaction of current members. Currently identifying potential members and those who would be in a position to reach out to them and update the dues structure.
- **Legislative Agenda**-Board Member Lead Bill Umbenhaur, staffed by Brandi Bird – Bill noted the issues, like access to funds, grant availability, and work of other organizations that might be helpful, as well as the survey that will be going out to members to get their input on issues and identify key congressional relationships.
- **Communications**- Board Member Lead- Andrew Plambeck, staffed by Kristin Jenkins- Andrew noted that the group was on hiatus following the summit but found some new recruits interested in participating in the monthly meetings, where members share items of interest, best practices, and questions and concerns.
- **Combined Procurements**- Board Member Lead - Dan Bower, staffed by Brandi Bird-Dan noted that this working group will remain dormant until issues arise. He invited anyone from the board to reach out to him should they need help in this area.

7. **Financial Overview**

Christy reviewed the state of the finances for March and April, noting the close of the membership dues collection for FY 22-23. While five members have withdrawn, like HNTB, DC Streetcar, as well as some individuals, it is important to note that Omaha, Fort Worth, and Dallas' McKinney Avenue Trolley joined the coalition. DJ Baxter asked about the members who had withdrawn and was informed of efforts to reintroduce them to the Coalition.