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Meeting of the Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging
Transportation Advisory Committee
Thursday, May 18, 2023
Hopewell Senior Citizens Center, Hopewell, PA

The Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging Transportation Advisory Committee met on Thursday, May 18, 2023. The meeting was opened by Connie Brode, Executive Director of the Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging.

Item 1- Welcome- Connie Brode, Executive Director of the Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging welcomed all committee members to today's meeting and reviewed the agenda items for today's meeting.

Item 2- Approval of Minutes- Connie Brode asked for a review and approval of the minutes from the April 14, 2023, Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting. Committee Member, Lavonne Lohr, made a motion to approve the minutes. Committee Members voted and approved the minutes from the April 14, 2023, Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting.

Item 3- Update on the Status of the CART Fare Increase Application- Connie Brode informed the Committee that the CART Fare Increase Application had been submitted to PennDOT on May 2, 2023, after receiving approval from the Citizens Advisory Council and the Joint Board of Commissioners. Connie indicated that CART had not yet received approval from PennDOT and that she had contacted Anthony Stever from PennDOT and that the Fare Increase Application had not been reviewed as of today's date. Connie stated that the Fare Increase Proposal was printed in the local newspapers, but the incorrect proposal was printed, as Proposal #1 was included in the article, instead of Proposal #4. Connie indicated that she would be working to get the correct information to the public. Committee Member, Michele Heane, asked if the Huntingdon County Commissioners were present for the Joint Board Meeting to approve the Fare Increase Proposal. Connie indicated that all Commissioners were at the Joint Board Meeting and were aware of the proposal. Connie further indicated that after receiving notice from PennDOT in January 2023 that a fare increase must be completed, that the Commissioner's were notified and were given a copy of all four fare increase proposals in March 2023. Connie indicated that the Joint Board of Commissioners also approved Fare Increase Proposal #4.

Item #4- Update on Status of Vehicle Procurement- Tony Molinari, Transportation Director, provided an update to the committee on the status of the Vehicle Procurement Projects. Tony indicated that CART had received three of its six minivans through Rohrer Bus Sales and had received eight of its eleven mini-buses through Coach and Equipment. Four of the mini-buses were delivered on May 15, 2023, with an additional three delivered on May 17, 2023. Tony indicated that the remaining four mini-buses were scheduled to be delivered on Monday, May 22, 2023.

Item #5- Staffing Updates- Connie informed the committee that Chanin Horton, CART Transportation Operations Supervisor, had resigned. Connie indicated that after completing the interview process, Kaitlyn Strauss, CART Scheduler, had been promoted to the Transportation Operations Supervisor position, effective June 5, 2023, and that the CART Scheduler position will be posted and advertised.

Item #6- Training Initiatives- Lori Heaton, Deputy Director, stated that there had been delays on the Customer Service Training for the CART Drivers due to difficulty with the CART Drivers accessing their agency emails. Lori indicated that she would be meeting with the CART Drivers at the Driver Offices to set up their emails. Lori indicated that the drivers will be required to complete Customer Service Training and Phishing Training. Lori stated that the drivers will also complete training in the areas of De-escalation, Proper Client Interaction and Defensive Driving.

Item #7- Safety Committee Implementation- Connie informed the Committee that the Agency will be re-implementing the Safety Committee, which was previously held with Cindy Harbaugh and Mike Whysong. Connie stated that the committee will be comprised of staff from all services within the agency, including CART Drivers. The Safety Committee will complete office inspections, review safety equipment, complete trainings and meet to discuss improvements regarding agency and staff safety.

Item #8- Survey Discussion- The committee continued the discussion of the transportation survey as a means to share that CART is a public transportation service. Jessica Sunderland stated that she would talk with Julie Dovey from the Fulton County Family Partnership and provide an example of their transportation survey to share with the committee during the next meeting.

Item #9- Adjournment- Next meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2023, 10:00AM at the Hopewell Senior Center.