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Meeting of the Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging
Transportation Advisory Committee
Thursday, July 20, 2023
Hopewell Senior Citizens Center, Hopewell, PA

The Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging Transportation Advisory Committee met on Thursday, July 20, 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 May 18, 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 May 18, 2023, Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting.

Item 3- Meet Kaitlyn Strauss, New Transportation Operations Supervisor- Kaitlyn Strauss was introduced to the committee as the new Transportation Operations Supervisor, replacing Chanin Horton.

Item 4- Vehicle Fleet Status- Tony Molinari, Transportation Director, provided an update to the committee on the status of the Vehicle Procurement Projects. Tony indicated that CART had received four of its six mini-vans through Rohrer Bus Sales, as the fourth mini-van was delivered on May 24, 2023. Tony also indicated that CART had received all eleven of its mini-buses from Coach and Equipment, as the remaining four mini-buses were delivered on May 22, 2023. Tony stated that all the vehicles' invoices and on-line section invoice from TRC Engineering, had been submitted to PennDOT, via DotGrants, for release of the grant funds to pay for the vehicle and inspection services.

Item #5- Fare Increase Status- Connie Brode provided an update on the status of the Fare Increase Application that was submitted to PennDOT. Connie indicated that Anthony Stever from PennDOT denied the Fare Increase Application, stating that the requested increase was "too high", particularly for clients with PWD funding. Connie indicated that a conference call was held on 7/19/2023 with Anthony Stever from PennDOT to review the next steps for the Modified Fare Increase that was proposed by PennDOT.

Item #6- PennDOT Proposal- Connie reviewed with the committee the Modified Fare Proposal from PennDOT, which was discussed on 7/19/2023 between Connie, Lori Heaton, and Tony Molinari, and Anthony Stever from PennDOT. Connie informed the committee that PennDOT had approved a Modified Fare Increase of 20%, bringing the full fare cost of Zone 1 from $20.00 to $25.00 and the full fare cost of Zone 2 from $30.00 to $37.50. Connie indicated to the committee that with the Modified Fare Increase, CART would still be looking at about a $700,000 deficit. Connie informed the committee that Anthony Stever from PennDOT, indicated that PennDOT will be providing Service Stabilization money to CART to offset the projected deficit. Connie stated that CART will be working with consultants from PennDOT to develop an appropriate mileage-based fare, which PennDOT is looking to move CART from Zone-Based to Mileage Based Fare Structure.

Item #7- Survey Discussion- The committee continued the discussion of the transportation survey as a means to share that CART is a public transportation service. During this discussion, it was also noted that the implementation of Customer Service Skills training had been started with the CART Drivers and the trainings are about 5-10 minutes in length, with the goal of improving Customer Service between CART and its clients and other providers.

Item #8- Adjournment- Next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2023, 10:00AM at the Hopewell Senior Center.