

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE

Draft Minutes

August 23, 2012

1. Self-Introductions of Members

Members present: Janet Abelson; Randall Glock; Jan (Janice) Armigo-Brown; Peter Crockwell; Mary Fowler; Jim Gonsalves; Don Queen; Hale Zukas; Gerry Newell; David Jackson, Jane Lewis; Katrina McCurdy; Roland Wong; Alan Smith; Larry Bunn

Members not present: Linda Drattell; Herb Hastings; Carmen Rivera-Hendrickson

Guests of the Public: CSO Lauren Sugayan; AnnaMae Stanley; Clarence Fischer; Chris Mullins; Lt.. Tyrone Forte; John Spangler; Janice Hoang (Steno Captioner)

Staff: Ike Nnaji; Bob Franklin

Guest Speaker(s), Staff and Directors: Robert Raburn; Mary King; Tim Chan; Paul Fadelli

2. Public Comments

Clarence provided Randall with a list of improvement suggestions. Randall will work with the committee and pass that information along.

3. Approval of Minutes of May 24, 2012 and July 26, 2012 Meeting

No opposition to Alan's motion to approve minutes of the May 24, 2012 meeting, (second by Gerry). Motion carries unanimously.

No opposition to Jim's motion to approve minutes of the July 26, 2012 meeting, (second by Gerry). Motion carries with one abstention by Janet.

4. Station Light Issues

Roland feels that there is inadequate lighting at the Civic Center Station, especially from the concourse going down to the platform level.

Larry feels that the stations past Downtown San Francisco going towards Daly City are dim.

Janet feels that the BART seismic retrofit project has caused some lighting issues at El Cerrito Plaza Station.

Alan shared that the northernmost stairway at the 19th Street Station has no lighting at all, and that the first time he pointed this out was about two months ago.

David stated that there is no uniform lighting at Glen Park Station.

Clarence said that he has noticed that Bay Fair and South Hayward stations have inadequate lighting and that he has had to assist others at nighttime in finding their way around the stations.

Lieutenant Forte said that he would ask that his sergeants do more patrols of the problem areas.

Randall will formally bring this issue to staff's attention.

5. Warm Springs and e-BART committees

No opposition to Alan's motion to forming an ad-hoc committee to be able to review plans and give member input and recommendations, (second by Gerry).

A friendly amendment to the motion was made by Janet, that the motion should be to forming two separate ad-hoc committees; one for Contra Costa County, and the other for Warm Springs, (accepted by Alan, second by Gerry).

Motion carries unanimously.

Tim suggested including the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority in forming the ad-hoc committee for Warm Springs.

Randall prompted members to volunteer to become members of these ad-hoc committees, as well as ad-hoc committees for other items.

(Volunteers for the Warm Springs ad-hoc committee are Katrina, Larry, Janet, Jane, Roland, Jan, Hale, Jim.)

(Volunteers for e-BART ad-hoc committee are Janet, Alan, Don, Jane, Roland, Hale, Jim.)

6. BATF Nomination for Officers

Randall reminded members that he is working with staff on the issue of member attendance, as there are a few members who have missed more than four meetings this year, as well as an expressed interest from other people wishing to be members of the BATF.

Nomination(s) for Chairperson: Randall (by Jim and Alan)

Nomination(s) for Vice-Chairperson: Janet (by Jim); Alan (by Randall);

Janet stated that she is willing to defer to Alan, and moved to unanimously elect both officers.

Ike replied that the group would have to ask BART's legal department if that is, in fact, permitted.

Randall will confirm with BART's legal department and report back at the next meeting.

David suggested waiting until the September meeting to vote, in order to allow the members who were absent at this August meeting to have a chance to vote.

Janet then amended her previous motion. She moved that the BATF revisit this vote at the next meeting for the purposes of allowing absent members of this meeting to participate at the next meeting, (second by Gerry). Motion carries with one abstention from Randall.

7. Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

Stair Tread Policy:

Alan reported that there is now yellow striping on the staircases at 19th Street and MacArthur BART stations. He has made an e-mail request of staff to hold another meeting, but had not yet received a response as of the time of the BATF meeting.

Randall then asked for volunteers to be on the Ad-Hoc Committee for this item.

Oakland Airport Connector Project:

The next meeting is scheduled to take place at the Ed Roberts Campus on September 12, 2012, 1:00pm.

Randall has elevator drawings available for viewing.

The elevator on the coliseum side will be similar to the elevator at the Lake Merritt Station.

New Car Design

There was a meeting held at the Ed Roberts Campus where members were able to see a 2-D mockup of the new car design. The discussion about this 2-D mockup meeting will take place at the next BATF meeting.

Bikes on BART Member Feedback

Randall showed everyone a number of photographs depicting his observations. He stated that in order to attain more space, BART will be removing a number of wind screens from the cars. He also urged members to e-mail their observations to him in order to give feedback back to staff at BART.

After hearing comments from some of the members regarding their observations, Randall again urged everyone to share it with him in an e-mail, so that he can then share it with the general manager.

Director Raburn suggested starting discussions about informing the public about the rights of wheelchair users.

John said that he would like to learn more from the BATF, for example, as to what the best protocols are for cyclists in what they should watch out for and how they should yield to someone with a disability. He added that a list of recommendations would be very helpful.

Some comments from members:

Janet was not able to observe much during the times she has gone out because there weren't many riders during those times.

On occasions where she did see bikers on BART, she noticed the issue of bicycles blocking the doorway.

Larry did not turn in a form as he did not see anything unusual and felt that there was nothing for him to report.

Jim feels that there aren't a lot of bicycle riders that are on the bicycle task force.

Mary shared a list of the types of wheeled objects she observed: Power wheelchairs, manual wheelchairs, walkers wheeled luggage, shopping carts, baby strollers, enclosed dog carts, Segways, scooters, and hand trucks.

Alan observed bikes in the doorways, and people with luggage and strollers.

David mentioned an occasion where someone carried his bicycle up the stairs and almost hit David in the head with it.

Jan gave a general overview of her observations as she had already sent her observations to the general manager. Some of the things that she noticed were:

- Some bikers did not give way to riders upon exiting the trains
- Many bikes on escalators entering the platform area
- Confusion as to who had the right of way
- Lots of bikes in the open areas, which is where they should be

8. Discussion of November and December Meeting Dates (action)

The November meeting has been set to take place on Wednesday, November 14th, 2:30 p.m., at the same location of 101 8th Street in Oakland, CA.

The December meeting has been set to take place on Wednesday, December 12th, 2:30 p.m., at the Kaiser Center, 300 Lakeside Drive in Oakland, CA.

9. Chairperson Announcements

Randall asked if e-mail was the best way to contact members and share information. Mary will look into the Yahoo Groups that was previously formed to see if it is still activated.

10. Staff Announcements

Ike received a letter from Rossana Reis asking for red ticket donations to help deaf women and children survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Bob Franklin will reserve the conference room for the December 12th meeting. He announced that the Richmond Intermodal facility is going to be reconfigured, starting around the third week of December. The station and Paratransit drop-off points will remain accessible, but members should be aware of any changes during the construction period.

11. Member Announcements

Jan is scheduled to do her next Bikes on BART observation on August 31st.

David would like to hear more about the Lighthouse's development of "strip maps" (which will present concise transit information about selected information of selected transit routes in Braille and large print), and would like to invite Frank Welte from the Lighthouse to present it at a future BATF meeting.

Janet requested to have name tags of members placed on the table during meetings, as was previously done in the past.

Peter announced that the next Service Review Advisory Committee (SRAC) meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 4, 2012.

Jim suggested that all the ad-hoc committees and their activities be placed on a website for the BATF. He would like to be able to see a continued list of the members of these ad-hoc committees, and the meeting dates and times.

12. Future Agenda Topics

- Ad-hoc committee reports
- Lighthouse presentation on development of strip maps
- Election nominations
- Discussion of Federal Transportation Authority (FTA) assessment report and whether an ad-hoc committee should be formed
- Follow-up on working with the Bicycle Task Force and how to start a dialog.
- Follow-up on BATF member stipend on Clipper card

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting of Thursday, September 27, 2012, at 2:30 p.m.