Mountain Line Transit Authority Citizen Advisory Committee
Minutes – May 16, 2012

The May meeting of the Mountain Line Transit Authority Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) was held on Wednesday, May 16 at 1:00 p.m. in the offices of the Transit Authority in Westover.

The following members were in attendance: Mary Herald (SMI), Dorothy Hobbs (Unity House), Daniel Hobbs (Unity House), Fred Moose (Unity House), Andrew Socolow (Red Line), Andrew Forgotzch (Channel 5 News), Trish Harman (InTouch & Concerned), Margaret Carrico (Orange Line), Walter Hardy (WVU)

Not present with notice: Regina Mayolo
Not present without notice: Marissa Travinski (BOPARC), Daniel O. Carroll (Green Line)
Others in attendance: DHHR is working on getting representation, Maria Smith (Mountain Line), James Santa Maria (Intern with MLTA), Wayne Pifer (AM with MLTA), David Bruffy (GM with MLTA)

General Business
- A motion to approve March Minutes was made by Andrew Socolow and second by Margaret Carrico with no further discussion minutes for March were approved.
- Committee members were given a list of dates for 2012 meetings: July 18, Sept 19 (evening) and Nov 21.
- Jim Huffman was driver of the month for March and April.
- Ridership for the months of March and April were up from annual figures for last year for overall, Disabled Ridership is up and Senior Ridership is up and WVU Ridership is up over last year. Highest ridership both months – Blue & Gold.
- Senior Mon’s ridership is showing record breaking numbers at 3294 for March and 2978 for April. There are currently 624 passes that have been distributed.
- High School ridership is still showing to be the highest ever at 1194 for March and 1045 for April.
- WVU Ridership was 93,434 and 103,751 for March and April respectively.

Old Business
- Solar Panel Project has begun, all panels are in place on the roof, the administrative building will experience a black out on Tuesday June 5th while they run tests on the new equipment. Everything should be up and running by June 15th.
- Service Reduction Update
  - Orange Line – Evening Service will be cut at the 5:00 PM run
  - Brown Line – Will be entirely cut
  - Recent meeting with the city now shows that some of the trips on the Red Line will be cut.
  - The cost per ride for the Brown Line is $31.11. Fred Pointed out that Grafton Road is more expensive and it was explained that Grafton Road is subsidized by the County along with Crown and Mountain Heights, these routes were original county routes from when the city and county combined transit services.
  - Mobile CAC Meeting – Possibility to hold this meeting at SMI, probably will be set up for next year.

New Business
- InTouch & Concerned is to take over the Scheduling responsibilities for the NewFIT program with the hopes to make it a more profitable service.
- As part of the Solar Power Project it had been determined that the Authority could save on electricity by changing out the lighting to a more efficient type of bulb, the board has approved this and the contractor will be doing this in the near future.
• Service Agreement Status – WVU may possibly decrease service on the Blue & Gold route and Valley View Route nothing has yet to be formalized yet. The Authority has yet to hear back from West Run, Mountain Valley or The Domain Apartments.
• Website – The old website died, the authority now has a new one in place however it is still under construction.

EEO Presentation
• EEO Presentation – James Santa Maria gave a presentation regarding Mountain Line’s EEO Program and their current status and goals for the upcoming year.

Public Comment/Hearing
• Daniel Hobbs of Unity House stated that the Brown Line cut will affect him as will the Red Line. There are many people at Unity House unable to walk downtown, some have heart problems, people should stop and think. Unity Manor has a lot of service but Unity House does not. Downtown PM Mall is good. Some have cars but there’s parking and insurance it’s expensive.
• Dorothy Hobbs of Unity House concurred there are many residents there who need the bus who can’t walk and some have heart conditions.
• Fred Moore of Unity House stated the Brown Line comes right up to the door and is very convenient for the residents, if they have to walk somewhere or figure out Red Line times a lot of the residents have mental disabilities and will be unable to manage the change.
• Mary Herald from SMI noted that she has not heard complaints from the Seniors however on a different note there are a few Seniors that don’t have service. Maria suggested she provide us with their information to see if there is a solution for their transportation issues.
• Trish Harman from InTouch said she didn’t think any of her riders would be effected. She asked for more information regarding the Westover Facility power outage on June 5th.
• Walter Hardy from WVU said the Orange PM will affect the students negatively however the Brown Line isn’t used by many of the students.

The next meeting of the CAC will be on July 18 at 1:00 PM at the Mountain Line office in Westover. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.