

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE

Draft Minutes

January 24, 2013

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; Herb Hastings; David Jackson, Jane Lewis; Katrina McCurdy; Alan Smith; Larry Bunn

Members not present: Roland Wong

Guests of the Public: Clarence Fischer; Crystal Raine; Kobia West; Byron Toma; Alexandra Baraff; Steve Beroldo; Janice Dispo (Steno Captioner);

Staff: Ike Nnaji; Bob Franklin

Speaker(s), Staff and Directors: Robert Raburn; John McPartland

2. Public Comments

Kobia West announced that the Office of the Independent Police Auditor will be hosting a forum that will take place on Tuesday, January 29th, 2013 from 6:00pm to 7:30 pm at the San Francisco Main Library. Light refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome to attend.

3. Approval of Minutes of December 12, 2012 Meeting

No opposition to Randall Glock's motion to approve minutes of the December 12, 2012 meeting, (second by Gerry Newell). Motion carries unanimously.

4. BATF By-Law Revision

After Ike Nnaji explained the process for members to recommend changes to the by-laws, members held a discussion where they could give their input on what changes or revisions they would like made.

Some of the things members discussed:

- Increasing the number of allowed absences in a calendar year
- No limits to the number of absences
- Using alternates (or alternatives at large)
- Members are responsible for notifying staff and the BATF of their absences
- After four absences, members should give up their membership due to their inability to serve
- Adding a special-circumstance clause to the by-laws (e.g.: an ongoing medical condition that would prevent someone from attending meetings and knowing in advance one's inability to attend)
- Leaving the by-laws and simply choosing not to take action to recommend the removal of a member who has been absent 4 times or more.

Director McPartland commented that having alternates-at-large is practical from an implementation standpoint.

Ike Nnaji feels that the use of alternates will complicate the members' reimbursement for attending meetings.

5. Capital Improvement Priority List

Members are to prioritize the list and they will be tallied at the next meeting.

6. Priority Seating Sign

Bob Franklin passed around two versions of the sign for members to view and give input on. Members preferred the sign where the symbols appeared above the wording.

Some comments from members:

- View of sign may be obstructed by someone sitting in the seat if sign is placed too low
- Wheelchair symbol may be confusing for people when the symbol appears in the sign above where seats are present
- Using a different color to designate priority seating
- Adding a symbol to represent people with service animals

7. Bike Pilot

Steve Beroldo stated that after the bike pilot held in August of 2012, BART is working on improvements to make it easier for riders to take their bikes on BART.

Some of these improvements include:

- Removal of seats near the doorway in cars
- Creation of designated bike waiting areas on platforms
- Improvement of bike parking at BART stations
- Addition of real time signage throughout stations informing of train arrival times

Steve Beroldo mentioned that BART is looking to hold another bike pilot that will run from a Monday to Friday.

BART expects to have wind screens removed from all cars by June 30, 2013.

8. Ad-Hoc Committee Reports

General Disabilities Awareness Project:

No update at this time. Ad-hoc committee plans to meet in mid-February.

Oakland Airport Connector Project

Next meeting scheduled for February 7, 2013.

Stair Tread Color Contrast Project

Next meeting scheduled for February 13, 2013.

Warm Springs Project

No update at this time. No meeting scheduled as of yet.

eBART Project

Next meeting scheduled for March 1, 2013.

9. Richmond Garage Issues

The four recommendations for the Richmond garage are:

- To replace dark stair stripes with brighter, contrasting color (like yellow)
- To install yellow domes on all cutouts in the bus/van drop-off area
- To install a detectable path of travel between the bus/van drop-off area to the station elevator
- To add chirping sounds to the 16th and Macdonald stoplight.

Bob Franklin told members that the project manager stated that these changes are beyond their task, and that project staff will be willing to make changes if BART can grant a change order. He will share the concerns regarding the cutouts without color and dark stair stripes with project management.

Alan Smith suggested that as a short-term solution to yellow domes on uncolored cutouts, that they could be painted yellow. He further explained that similarly colored stripes work at Millbrae as on a recent station tour with David Jackson and Don Queen; the lighting is much brighter at Millbrae, the stairs are light-colored (almost white) than at Richmond garage, which provides better contrast.

The City of Richmond has agreed to install the chirping sounds at 16th and MacDonald at the City's expense.

10. BATF Reception Debriefing

Members suggested placing tables in the large area so that members do not have to leave the main area just to eat their food. The members also agreed by a consensus that the December reception should be repeated.

11. Chairperson Announcements

Alan Smith told members about the special meeting of the Board of Directors that was held on January 11 and 12, 2013. This meeting was a board workshop that he attended, along with Clarence Fischer. They were both able to address the board in the meeting. Alan Smith then reported that the many BART projects for the next 10 years (Fleet of the Future, State of Good Repair, upgraded train control system, etc.) require approximately \$6 billion. He further explained that a proposed solution to overcrowding at Montgomery Street and Embarcadero stations is to construct "saddlebag" platforms. This involves removing the walls along the tracks and installing a platform on the other side of the tracks. Thus, one would enter the train on one platform and exit on the other. Clarence Fischer

asked how the train operator was to look down both sides of the train with the "saddlebag" platforms.

12. Staff Announcements

[No staff announcements.]

Director Robert Raburn shared with members one of the ideas that he will be pushing for in the budget for this year.

The board workshop identified key components that BART will be focusing on, such as acquiring a new fleet of cars, maintenance of the system in a state of good repair, and focusing on needs of the stations, which is close to his heart. One element that he would like to embark on right away is staffing a station agent at 19th Street near the elevator. He looks forward to receiving the finalized capital improvement priority list and thanked Alan Smith for attending the workshop and giving members an update.

13. Member Announcements

[No member announcements.]

14. Future Agenda Topics

- Community Resources for Independent Living (CRIL) travel training program presentation
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) original Paratransit coordinator plan presentation