

Draft Minutes
The Dubuque Transit Advisory Board Meeting
Thursday, May 9, 2019
4:30 pm-5:30 pm
Intermodal Transportation Center Conference Room

Transit Advisory Board Members:

- Robert Daughters, Vice Chair Matt Esser, Chair George Enderson
 Carrie Lohrmann Dora Serna

Others Present

- Renee Tyler Jason Duba
Director of Transportation Services *Transportation Analyst*
- Russ Stecklein
Assistant Operations Supervisor

Public Present Bill and Kyle Stumpf

1. Call to Order

The Dubuque Transit Advisory Board meeting was called to order by Esser, Board Chair at 4:30 pm. Introductions were made, as Bill and Kyle Stumpf were present as guests.

2. Review/approve the agenda for the Thursday, May 9, 2019 Transit Advisory Board meeting

Motion by Enderson, second by Daughters to approve amended agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Review/approve the minutes from the Thursday, March 14, 2019 Transit Advisory Board meeting

Motion by Daughters, second by Lohrmann to approve the minutes from the March Transit Advisory Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Enderson and Serna abstaining as they were absent from the meeting.

4. Bill & Kyle Stumpf share their experience with public transit in Dubuque

Kyle Stumpf and his father, Bill, were invited to talk about Kyle's experience as a person with special needs using public transit in Dubuque. Bill gave a brief background on Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Settings Transition, which is legislation intended to help people with special needs become more integrated in the community and less isolated in sheltered workshops.

Bill described Kyle's transition from a sheltered workshop to an integrated job at Papa John's. He described Kyle's use of public transit, when transit works well, and where there are still some transit shortcomings for Kyle's needs. Bill complimented the dispatchers and their work to schedule Kyle's rides.

Bill described travel training, and Stecklein offered to work with Kyle and Bill to try using The Jule fixed route service. Lohrmann asked about The Jule's value statements with respect to people with disabilities, and Stecklein explained there is a statement on the topic and new employees are trained in working with people with disabilities.

The Board expressed appreciation to Bill and Kyle for taking the time to speak with them.

5. General Public Comments & Service Requests

Duba stated that there was one bus stop request since the last meeting. It was for a stop at 1220 Associates Dr at BioLife Plasma Center. This request was denied as that location is just one block from another stop, and there is a sidewalk between the two points.

6. Ridership Report

Duba reviewed ridership for the ten months of FY 19 (July 2018-April 2019) and compared it with the same period of the previous two fiscal years.

- Total fixed-route + paratransit ridership by month
- Fixed-route ridership by route
- Total ridership and rides by type of service
- Total ridership by hour of the day

Total ridership for this period was 411,525, which was less either than FY 17 (445,265) or FY 18 (424,566). Esser asked whether this was concerning, and Tyler expressed that it was. Possible factors include the harsh winter weather and recent problems with the swipe cards. Tyler listed several initiatives to increase ridership, including adding college faculty and staff to the College Campus Partnership and considering Wi-Fi on buses to attract more choice riders.

7. Review Five-year Plan and discuss TAB action steps

Since the last meeting, Serna and Duba worked together to translate The Jule's Passenger Policies into Spanish. This document was printed and posted in every bus.

8. Board Comments

- Daughters asked about progress toward the MyRide app and a mobile payment app. Tyler explained that AIMS (payment software) and TripSpark (MyRide) are open to working together on a joint bus tracker/payment tool. Esser asked if the MyRide app will be more mobile-friendly than the current version, and it was emphasized that a main issue is the lack of responsiveness to different size screens.
- Esser asked about the recent move to collect \$1.50 from 11-18-year-olds riding the MiniBus, and Stecklein explained that it wasn't a change in policy but just acting on a policy that was already in place.

9. Request for special June meeting to:

- Review 2019/2020 service schedule
- Results of the annual FTA inspection

Stecklein described the proposed route changes, which don't reduce service but rather rearrange routes to more effectively keep buses on schedule. Esser emphasized the need to get the changes to the Board as soon as possible so they can review them before the meeting.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 4:30pm at the Intermodal Conference Room.

10. Adjournment

Serna motioned to adjourn, second by Daughters. The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

These minutes passed, approved and adopted on this 20th day of June 2019.



Matt Esser, Chair
Dubuque Transit Advisory Board