

Minnesota Council on Transportation Access

Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2012

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair, Joan Willshire, called to order the regular meeting of the Minnesota Council on Transportation Access at 1:10 pm on January 24, 2012 in the Aeronautics Building, 222 Plato Blvd, St. Paul, MN 55130.

II. Attendees

Members Present

Vice Chair- Joan Willshire, Minnesota State Council on Disability
Tina Armstrong, Minnesota Department of Commerce
Chuk Hamilton, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development
Tony Kellen, Minnesota Public Transit Association
Mary Koep, Minnesota Board on Aging (joined via phone)
Scott Leitz, Minnesota Department of Human Services
Gerri Sutton, Metropolitan Council
Kelly Wosika, Minnesota Department of Education

Others Present

Judy Ellison, Minnesota Department of Transportation
Sarah Lentz, Minnesota Department of Human Services
Jackie Peichel, Minnesota Board on Aging
Bob Ries, Minnesota Department of Human Services
Noel Shughart, Minnesota Department of Transportation
Fay Simer, Minnesota Department of Human Services

Members Absent

Doug Benson, Minnesota Department of Health
Tim Henkel, Minnesota Department of Transportation
Dan Pollack, Governor's Office
Mike Schadauer, Minnesota Department of Transportation
Britta Reitan, Minnesota Management and Budget
Ron Quade, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs

III. Review and Approval of Agenda

Add work plan development contracts.

Motion was made, and seconded to accept the agenda as is. The motion carried.

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes from 12/20/11 & 12/28/11

Motion was made, and seconded to approve the minutes of the Minnesota Council on Transportation Access, December 20, 2011 and December 28, 2011 meetings.

Motion carried.

Discussion: Ms. Armstrong stated that the Council needs to ensure that people who are not official members are not voting.

V. NEMT Transportation Council Recommendations

Mr. Leitz updated the group on the findings of the Leg auditors report. Discussed the steering committee met six times between September and December 2011. The structure of this program is complex. Report was due January 15

Recommendations to the legislature:

1. Create an ongoing Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) committee
2. Eliminate the second Access Transportation designation
3. Establish a new assessment process for matching the client to services.
4. Establish a new process for receiving and tracking customer complaints.
5. Eliminate real and perceived conflicts of interest for coordinators.
6. Maximize the use of public transportation
7. Develop a better set of metrics to measure program effectiveness.

Questions

Ms. Koep asked, why must the organizing of the NEMT committee be done legislatively?

Mr. Leitz explained this was done to show there is a formal commitment by DHS to comply with the Legislative Auditors findings and recommendations.

Ms. Sutton stated that the NEMT committee does not have DHS policy expertise on the committee or people who understand public transit. She asked if there has been a formal public comment period. Mr. Leitz, said, no.

Ms. Lentz and Sutton both questioned the imbalance of representation of private transit providers. Mr. Kellen confirmed that the group could benefit from some more public transit providers. Mr Leitz responded that these comments would be taken into consideration as as the new committee is formed.

Ms. Willshire mentioned that the group could benefit from a public hearing. She requested Mr. Leitz to continue to update the council on a periodic basis.

VI. Coordination Plan Synthesis

Ms. Simer walked the council through the **Working Together to Enhance Transportation Access** - Synthesis of the 2011 Minnesota Local Human Services Transit Coordination Plans (see handout).

Mr. Hamilton has some edits that he would like added to the document. He will discuss with Ms. Simer the edits. Ms. Koep requested that we table voting on the document until the February 28, 2012 meeting. Ms. Armstrong asked who the audience for the document is. Ms. Simer said

Suggestions need to be to Ms. Simer by 2/7/12

VII. Minnesota GO Presentation

Mr. Schaffner provided an overview of Minnesota GO, the MnDOT transportation policy plan. Public open houses seeking comments on the proposed plan are occurring in January. For more information Mr. Schaffner can be reached at 651.366.3743

VIII. Webinar Series Update

Mr. Shughart provided an update to the scheduled webinar series on mobility management. The first in the series is scheduled for February 13th with presenters from Wisconsin, the second will be on March 9th with presenters from Portland Oregon and Baltimore Maryland. The third webinar will have presenters from Scott/Carver County and possibly Florida. Joan Willshire will act as host and MC.

IX. Committee Reports

There were no formal meeting by the committees in January.

X. Member Reports

None

XI. Public Comment

No public comment.

XII. Adjournment

Motion was made by Ms. Armstrong to adjourn, and seconded. Motion carried.

Ms. Willshire adjourned the meeting at 3:00 P.M. Next meeting is scheduled for February 28, 2012 Hiway Federal Credit Union Administration Building, 840 Westminster Street, St. Paul, MN 55130.

Minutes submitted by Jacqueline Peichel, staff to the Minnesota Board on Aging and Noel Shughart, staff to MnDOT.

Hand-outs

MCOTA Agenda January 24, 2012

MCOTA Meeting Minutes December 20, 2011

MCOTA Meeting Minutes December 28, 2011

Working Together to Enhance Transportation Access - Synthesis of the 2011 Minnesota Local Human Services Transit Coordination Plans.

Minnesota Go, Crafting a Transportation Vision for Generations 50. 50-Year Statewide Vision