

**GATRA
Consumer Advisory Committee
OPEN MEETING**

Date: October 19, 2017
Time: 1:00 pm
Place: GATRA
2 Oak Street
Taunton, MA

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AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Reading & Acceptance of Minutes: September 21, 2017
3. Consumer Comments
4. Reports from the Authority
5. Reports from the Operator
6. Unfinished or Old Business
7. New Business
8. Remarks or Announcements from the Chair
9. Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting
10. Adjournment

The building and conference room are accessible to people with disabilities. Group transportation to and from the meeting is free. Call Dial-A-Ride at one of the telephone numbers by noon the day before the meeting.

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Copies of minutes are available in alternative formats upon request.

**Minutes if the GATAR Attleboro/Taunton Consumer Advisory Meeting on
September 21, 2017, 1PM held at the Attleboro Public Library.**

Present:

Walter Thibodeau, Vice Chairperson	Julie Hall, Attleboro City Council
Stacy Royer, SRPEDD	Joanne LaFerrara, GATRA
Ed Rosario, GATRA	Bradley Marshall, Rehoboth COA
Jeffrey Heap, Consumer	John McLaughlin, Scituate COD

Call to Order

Vice Chairperson Thibodeau called the meeting to order at 1:03PM.

Acceptance of the Minutes

The minutes from the May 18, 2017 minutes were read and accepted with amendments.

Consumer Comments

There were none.

Reports from the Authority

Ms. LaFerrara stated that the partnership with Uber started October 1, 2017, and that they have 8 social services/non-profits agencies signed up.

Ms. LaFerrara reported she received a grant for \$30,000 for the pilot and hopes that it will be successful.

Mr. Bradley stated he hopes the program is successful as well.

Ms. LaFerrara stated that the Uber drivers have to be screened and that there will be a training for this program.

Ms. LaFerrara stated that the City of Attleboro and Town of Norton really helped to get this done, and this pilot program will come with a ton of data to look at.

Ms. LaFerrara stated that Plymouth is looking into this program as well, and she hopes that they can do this program for the South part of Plymouth which struggles with transportation needs.

Ms. LaFerrara reported that GATRA has a major fatality accident with a Bus recently and it is still under investigation.

Reports from the Operator

Mr. Rosario reported the Dial A Ride statistics for the months of June, July, and August.

Mr. Rosario noticed an error and will bring the correct August Dial A Ride statistics to the next meeting.

Mr. Rosario and Mr. Bradley had a discussion involving increasing ridership usage, Pride Inc., and the Kidney Center.

Unfinished or Old Business

There was none.

New Business

Mr. McLaughlin stated that there is a new playground being constructed in Scituate and would like a bus stop to be placed there, and has spoken to the Commission several times.

Mr. McLaughlin asked if they can name bus stops as memorials.

Ms. LaFerrara replied that because the town owns it, the town has to request for GATRA to go there.

Ms. LaFerrara replied that you cannot have a bus stop as a memorial, but you can have a bench.

Mr. Thibodeau and Mr. McLaughlin had a discussion on lack of sidewalk accessibility in certain parts of their respective towns.

Mr. Bradley stated that the Anawan School in 5 years is being converted into a Housing for Seniors/low-income, but the entry area is not conducive to have a bus pull in.

Ms. Hall stated that on 67 Mechanic Street, 140 income based housing units will be breaking ground in the fall or spring. Ms. Hall stated its for 55+, and is not sure if there is a bus stop.

Ms. LaFerrara stated that she will look into it.

Ms. LaFerrara stated that perhaps the reason why there has not been greater turn outs at the meeting is because of the 1PM meeting time.

Mr. Bradley stated that having the meetings earlier in the morning is easier for him.

Mr. McLaughlin suggested perhaps changing the meeting time to 10AM or 11AM.

Remarks or Announcements from the Chair

Ms. Hall stated that she is happy to serve as Chair for 3 months but she will be done at the end of the year.

Mr. Thibodeau suggested hosting another election in 3 months.

A Vote was held for new Committee Chairs. The new Chairperson is Julie Hall, the new Vice-Chairperson is Jeffery Heap, and the At-Large Member is John McLaughlin.

Mr. Thibodeau thanked everyone for him being acting-chair. Mr. Thibodeau stated that he enjoyed working with everyone and has been grateful for the dedication of everyone coming to the meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:55PM.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on:

Date: October 19, 2017

Time: 1:00 PM

Location: GATRA

2 Oak Street,

Taunton, MA

SWK
7/29/17