

LCTA Ridership Committee
May 19, 2015
2:00 pm

Present: Norm Gavlick, Angel Mathis, Frank Knorek, Patrick Conway, Rosemary Lombardo, John Ramos, Linda Slater, Joseph J. Fedak, and Valerie Kepner.

The Bus Time number will, in the near future, be visible in all buses so that any rider may call LCTA to report a non-functioning AVL system.

By this fall, it is expected that each Shared Ride van will have four cameras installed. Further, the Shared Ride branch of LCTA is now offering full six-day services, though it's currently considered to be a "soft" opening. A modified grant allows for the expanded Saturday service.

LCTA is looking to adding service to the Laurel Run trailer park; this will extend the #7 run by eight minutes. The owner of the trailer park supports LCTA's adding the service, and LCTA hopes to make the change in the next two weeks.

Discussion continues with the Wilkes-Barre Area School District regarding bus passes. There are other ideas also being discussed, e.g. the creation of a student advisory board.

It was shared that a part-time marketing position has been created. There is the potential for a grant of \$100,000 to be used to fund a future marketing campaign.

Dump the Pump day is coming up in June; the summer service to Frances Slocum State Park will be starting soon.

It was noted that the public is interested in a movie-and-a-bus-pass deal.

The new Shared Ride vans will sport new graphics, and there will be a change to include the word "Transit" when describing Shared Ride's services.

LCTA is exploring a grant opportunity that would fund bus rides for veterans.

There is now a Drivers Committee with drivers working together with administrators to improve the fixed route schedules.

The plan for the new Center Point Commerce Park run is to incrementally add runs; LCTA acknowledges that the Saturday schedule is less than ideal right now.

LCTA is working on acquiring new contracts including with Geisinger and the Epilepsy Foundation.

There was a question regarding the contract with the Blind Association. A client has been told that she can no longer bring a personal care attendant, and it was asked why this was the case. Norm Gavlick and Frank Knorek both said they would look into this.

LCTA has met with Butch with the City of Wilkes-Barre, as the city has grant money to use on the Intermodal. Butch has been asked to look into greater accommodations for riders who are sight impaired.

A question was raised regarding the STEP program. Frank Knorek shared that he and others have begun the process of revising all STEP-related materials (including the website), and he expects for all revisions to be done by the end of June.

Jim Darr was complimented for his recent work with Area Agency on Aging clients. He made sure that everyone was well served.

It was noted that the AVL system was not working on the #14. Norm Gavlick responded that the GPS system is not always reliable. Frank Knorek added that there will be a meeting with union representatives to make clear to drivers that they must manually announce stops if the AVL system isn't working. All drivers will be asked to sign a form acknowledging they must manually announce stops and sign off on an ADA summary sheet.

It was asked if the Hazleton bus will be coordinated with the LCTA Frances Slocum bus to allow for Hazleton residents to go to Frances Slocum State Park. Norm Gavlick said he would look into this.

Lastly, it was noted that not all riders will fold up their strollers or keep carts out of the aisles as required.

The next LCTA Ridership Committee meeting will take place June 16, 2015 at LCCC's Wilkes-Barre Center on Public Square.