

Minutes from May 17, 2016 Ridership Committee Meeting held at 2 PM at the LCCC Corporate Learning Center.

Present: Norm Gavlick (LCTA), Frank Knorek (LCTA), Angel Mathis (AAA), Linda Slater (PTAC), Joe Fedak (Public)

Review of meeting minutes from the 4/19/2016 Ridership Committee meeting.

Public Comment:

- A member of the public asked: When will the Frances Slocum run start? The Frances Slocum run will start on 6/11/2016. Local elected public officials were invited to ride the first trip out to the park on the opening day. There will also be a small “kick-off” event held at the park that day.
- LCTA representatives stated: Wilkes-Barre Area School District students can use their LCTA bus pass all summer long.
- LCTA representatives stated: LCTA is looking into establishing a Student Advisory Council to include local high school and college students. The goal of the advisory council is to gain student input on proposed fare and service changes. A member of the public asked if there will be flyers advertising this initiative. LCTA representatives stated there will be and the Marketing Department is currently working on it.
- LCTA representatives stated: They had a meeting with the Luzerne County Planning Commission today, and look forward to cooperating on various projects.
- LCTA representatives stated: The NEPA Alliance in Pittston have almost completed a mapping project to upgrade the visual quality and accuracy of the route maps that appear on the back of LCTA fixed route bus schedules. The project should be completed shortly.
- A member of PTAC commented: That riders from Pittston who work at the Centerpoint Industrial Park have to travel all the way to the Intermodal transportation center in downtown Wilkes-Barre, and then take the #19 to the park in order to get to work. Why not just have a bus that can go from Pittston to Centerpoint? LCTA representatives stated they are actively working on revamping the routes and purchased software to aide in this project.
- LCTA representatives stated: LCTA is working on a feasibility project to revamp the fixed route bus system in order to make it more efficient and useful to riders. This would include the possibility of including full Saturday service and limited night service. It all comes down to financial, operational, and equipment constraints.

- LCTA representatives stated: In 2016, LCTA will be purchasing 2-3 new fixed route buses, and 6 new Shared Ride Program vans that will be CNG-ready.
- LCTA representatives stated: LCTA was approved for the PennDOT CNG project, but not specific timeline has yet been established.
- LCTA representatives stated: LCTA is looking at the feasibility of having fixed route buses service PSU Lehman.
- LCTA representatives stated: LCTA is looking at the feasibility of a Park and Ride in the Back Mountain Area. This would help the parking situation in downtown Wilkes-Barre, and increase ridership.
- LCTA representatives stated: LCTA is actively looking into changing the fixed route bus fare structure to be more consumer friendly.
- A member of the public stated: Can the # 18 be re-routed due to road construction on Coal Street and Rt. 309 in Wilkes-Barre Twp.? LCTA representatives stated, we are doing the best we can to find alternative routes, but the situation is believed to be only temporary.
- A member of PTAC stated: There are posters hanging at the Wilkes-Barre Association of the Blind office and the Wilkes-Barre OVR office, stating “Blind people cannot ride LCTA.” LCTA representative stated this is not true, all are welcome aboard LCTA without regard to a disability, and they will reach out to those two offices and provide them with updated information.
- A member of the public from the Area Agency on Aging stated: Bus schedules are needed at the Charles Adams Senior Center on Market Street. LCTA representatives stated they will deliver the schedules tomorrow.