

Oxford - University Transit Meeting 3/11/09

Members Present: Jack Howard, Donna Gurley, Carol Haney, Rebecca Bertrand, George Price

Others present: Tim Akers, Tim Lett, Megan Taylor, Ron Biggs

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jack Howard.

The meeting agenda was approved.

The minutes for the February 11th meeting were approved.

February Report from General Manager

Ron Biggs reported that there were 10,314 riders for the month of February. This is an increase of 33% over last month.

Carol Haney asked what the increase was attributed to.

Mr. Biggs explained that the weather could be a factor as well as more people are becoming familiar with the OUT system.

Rebecca Bertrand asked if Saturday ridership was consistent with the weekdays.

Mr. Biggs stated that Saturday ridership was equal to weekday ridership.

In preparation for the Double Decker Festival, Ron Biggs presented a route detour narrative and map for Friday April 24th and Saturday April 25th.

The detour maps will be published in the Eagle and the Daily Mississippian the week of Double Decker.

A question was raised about people bringing pets or coolers onto the busses.

Time Akers, Ron Biggs and Tim Lett agreed to enforce the current policies that allow a person to carry on only two grocery bags and no food or drink. They also discussed that the policy only allows for animals if they are ADA certified.

George Price was asked by Lena Wiley if a bus stop could be placed closer to the Interfaith Compassionate Ministries office.

Ron let the commission know that he will look in to accommodating this request.

Planner's Report

Tim Akers let the commission know that two financial reports would be presented at next month's meeting

Mr. Akers let the commission know that he has been speaking with MDOT and will be traveling to Jackson, MS on March 25th for a meeting regarding stimulus opportunities.

He also informed the commission that the environmental survey for the new transit facility is nearly complete.

Rebecca Bertrand reported on her meeting with enrollment services at the University.

They have decided to include OUT in the recruitment publications as well as the orientation handbook. A student's blog will also feature the system and how to get around Oxford.

Transit Summit Report

Jack Howard reported on traveling to the Transit Summit.

The summit was facilitated by MDOT to coordinate discussions on transit systems and helped to coordinate resources.

Rebecca Bertrand let the commission know about the Regional Conference for Orientation that would be in town the weekend of March 13th – 15th. She also told the commission that she would be moving back to Houston, TX and would not be able to continue to serve on the OUT Commission, but that the University would appoint someone to fill her vacancy.

Carol Haney made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Jim Windham seconded.

With all voting yes, the meeting was adjourned.