



Oxford - University Transit Meeting

March 9, 2011

Members Present: Mike Black, Donna Gurley, Carole Haney, Shannon Richardson, Jim Windham and Cory Washington

Others Present: Tim Akers, Ron Biggs, Matt Davis, Frances Saralvarez, Michael Aponte, Dick Burkepile, and Anne McCauley.

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Donna Gurley.

The Commission welcomed Mr. Mike Black, the new Commission Member.

Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair of the O.U.T. Commission

Commissioner Gurley called for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission. Commissioner Carole Haney mentioned that during the conception of the Commission it was mentioned that the Chair position would be alternated between the City and the University, and it is the University's turn. Commissioner Haney nominated Commissioner Jim Windham for Chair. Commissioner Windham thankfully and respectfully declined due to his busy schedule at the University.

Commissioner Carole Haney nominated Commissioner Donna Gurley for Chair and Commissioner Jim Windham seconded the nomination. With a unanimous voice Commissioner Donna Gurley was appointed Chair of the Commission.

Commissioner Donna Gurley nominated Commissioner Carole Haney for Vice Chair and Commissioner Jim Windham seconded the nomination. With a unanimous voice Commissioner Carole Haney was appointed Vice Chair of the Commission.

The meeting agenda was amended to add No. 7, for Discussion of Green Day. Mr. Akers mentioned that a note was added to the bottom of the agenda stating the Commission Meeting for the month of February was cancelled.

Commissioner Shannon Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of No. 7, discussion of Green Day seconded by Commissioner Mike Black. All were in favor.

The minutes for the January 12, 2011 meeting were approved.

Commissioner Carole Haney made a motion to approve the minutes for the month of January seconded by Commissioner Shannon Richardson. All were in favor.

General Manager's Report - Ron Biggs

- Mr. Biggs stated that ridership for the month of January was 20,048. Monthly passes sold, \$490.00 Revenue from farebox and monthly passes was \$2,958.00. Ridership for the month of February was 36,377. Monthly passes sold \$415.00 Revenue from farebox and monthly passes was \$2,231.50. We added an extra bus on the Green Route to help with the over-flow in the South Lot due to buses being too full and having to leave passengers at certain times of the day.

- There is an insurance claim where a gentleman said that he injured his leg on the bus. The bus he was on was so full that he was past the white line due to the bus being so full.
- On Friday, March 11, we went to Jackson to pick up the buses. They are 41" long and carry 40 passengers. Mr. Biggs drove the bus through campus and found it challenging because of the size. The two buses have been furnished with the GPS system, and the logos are in place. The buses will be used on the Green Line, where they will be replacing the buses, which are currently being used with 30 passenger seating.
- O.U.T.'s fleet currently consists of 16 buses.
- We anticipate ridership will increase as fuel prices increase.

Planner's Report – Tim Akers

- All the shelters have been installed, and all the solar lighting is in place and working. We only have two extra shelters to use as replacement.
- During the meeting in January, the Commission discussed the possibility of procuring extra shelters. Mr. Akers requested a quote from the same company who supplied the previous shelters, and the price doubled. The only way to get additional shelters would be to start the bidding over. The main drawback is that we may not get the same style of shelter.
- We have the funds to procure the shelters for the university, but we still don't have authorization from the University to move forward. Students are voicing their desire to have shelters installed on campus especially on rainy days. Mr. Akers added that the funds that are currently available for the procurement of the shelters expire in the month of September.
- Mr. Akers informed the Commission that it was decided not to install LED screens.
- Mr. Tim Lett will arrive tomorrow to participate in the meeting with Howorth Associates to continue the discussion of the design of the new O.U.T. building.
- There has been some preliminary discussion on providing public transportation to the new high school. There are a number of advantages for parents and students to have more flexibility in methods of transportation. We may need to look at the possibility of servicing Sisk Avenue in the future.

Discussion of the Orange Route

- Mr. Tim Lett and Mr. Ron Biggs have been reviewing the Orange Route to try to find a solution in order to continue service. They are discussing the possibility of extending the Blue Route to run to the Links Apartments a couple of times in the morning and a couple of times in the afternoon. The Blue Line may be divided into Blue East and Blue West having to transfer between East and West.
- O.U.T. will place public notices informing the public of the cancellation of the Orange Route and changes on the routes.

Discussion of Green Week

- Green Day will take place the week of April 18, and O.U.T. will have the table set up on Tuesday, April 19.
- Cory Washington started the discussion by requesting a bus to be parked at the Student Union for students to be able to board and look inside.

- There may also be the possibility of computers being furnished by the Green Committee to show students how the GPS system works.
- The University is working on the application for Nextbus, which will be available to download on cell phones. The Students working on the application were provided with Nextbus' contact information to increase their knowledge on how the program works in order to continue the development of mentioned application.
- In order to enhance Green Week awareness, the Commission will consider the possibility of setting a day where there would be no charge for riding the bus on a specific day.

Open Discussion

- The question was asked if the Hospital was built on the west side of Oxford, will O.U.T. service the Hospital. O.U.T. would consider the opportunity of servicing the Hospital with perhaps some type of subsidy.

There being no further business to come before the Commission and upon a motion made by Commissioner Carole Haney, seconded by Commissioner Shannon Richardson, the meeting was adjourned with unanimous yeas.