



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
3201 SCHERER DRIVE, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716
WWW.PSTA.NET 727.540.1800 FAX 727.540.1913

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 8, 2018

Committee Chair Janet Long called the January 8, 2018 Legislative Committee meeting to order at 1:00 PM. Members present: Janet Long, Patricia Johnson, Lisa Wheeler-Bowman, Charlie Justice, Joe Barkley, and John Tornga. Also present were: Brad Miller, CEO; Bill Jonson, PSTA Board member; PSTA staff members, and members of the public. The following participated via telephone: Natalie King, RSA Consulting; Ron Pierce, RSA Consulting; Harry Glenn, Van Scoyoc; and Alan Suskey, Suskey Consulting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Whit Blanton, Executive Director, Forward Pinellas, invited everyone to the Forward Pinellas Board Work Session on Friday, January 12th.

ACTION ITEMS

November 1, 2017 Meeting Minutes – Mr. Justice made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler-Bowman, to approve the amended minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Legislative Trips – Mr. Miller recapped the successful Legislative trips to Washington D.C. and Tallahassee back in November. He mentioned another trip to Tallahassee on January 16th-17th where Ms. Johnson and Ms. Gerard will be attending along with him.

[Ms. Johnson entered the meeting at 1:06 PM.]

Ms. King added a few comments about those trips and the trip coming up next week. Ms. Johnson asked who the team will be meeting with and Ms. King indicated that meetings are still being arranged with the delegation. She said the schedule should be finalized in a few days.

Mr. Miller recapped the December trip to Washington D.C. Mr. Glenn spoke about the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project and the importance of funding for the Small Starts program and the Capital Investment Grant program. Mr. Miller said the next trip to Washington D.C. is being planned for March.

Special District Taxing Constitutional Amendment Update – Ms. King said this bill is not expected to move forward or have a lot of activity. Committee Chair Long asked Ms. King and Mr. Pierce to keep the Committee apprised of the activity of this bill.

Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) Strategic Update – Committee Chair Long said the Regional Transit Feasibility Study is being released the end of the week then proceeding to the Tampa Management Area (TMA) group on January 19th. Mr. Jonson questioned the study and he was told the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) asked the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) to take the plan over. Mr. Jonson asked about public outreach and it was noted that there will be public engagement relating to this plan. Mr. Blanton mentioned a public work session where the plan was discussed and the community was asked what they were looking for in a good transit system.

FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS

Mr. Miller indicated that there will be upcoming discussions about TBARTA.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Johnson talked about Leadership Pinellas and a visit to Dunedin where their mayor mentioned \$42 million that the County will be giving them. Ms. Johnson asked how PSTA can be qualified for some of those funds. Committee Chair Long stated her opinion that some of that money should be put aside for transportation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 PM. The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for February 7th at 9:00 AM.