



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Committee Chair Long called the February 7, 2018 Legislative Committee meeting to order at 9:06 AM. Members present: Janet Long, Patricia Johnson, Joe Barkley, and Lisa Wheeler-Bowman. Members absent: Charlie Justice and John Tornga. Also present were: Brad Miller, CEO; PSTA staff members, and members of the public. The following participated via telephone: Steve Palmer, Van Scoyoc; and Alan Suskey, Suskey Consulting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tom Rask, unincorporated Pinellas County, spoke about the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) document that was handed out at the meeting. He mentioned the legislative priorities, in particular the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), as well as the decline in ridership.

[Ms. Johnson entered the meeting at 9:08 AM.]

ACTION ITEMS

Approve January 8, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Mr. Barkley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Wheeler-Bowman, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Transit Feasibility Study Resolution – Mr. Miller outlined the Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority (TBARTA) Resolution relating to the Regional Transit Feasibility Plan (RTFP). Staff would like the PSTA Board to adopt a similar Resolution supporting the Plan. Committee Chair Long clarified an issue that she believes was confusing when discussed at the PSTA Executive Committee meeting. The Executive Committee wanted to ensure that the word “implementation” did not suggest “operation.” Mr. Miller said the Board will receive the Resolution, which is being revised by legal, in the Board agenda for the full Board to review.

In response to Committee Chair Long’s call for public comment, Mr. Rask commented on the public engagement aspect of this plan and what occurred during Greenlight.

After discussion, no vote took place. It was decided to bring this item back to the Planning Committee with the mentioned changes to the Resolution.

INFORMATION ITEMS

State and Federal Legislative Update - The Committee received an update on the State and Federal Legislative priorities from Mr. Suskey and Mr. Palmer. They reviewed how PSTA's priorities are faring in the House and Senate, as well as information about recent events and timelines. Mr. Suskey indicated that Senator Brandes will make a visit to PSTA after the session has concluded to provide an overview.

FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS

Mr. Miller said that he will be in Tallahassee on February 14th for the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) day. He also mentioned a Legislative trip to Washington D.C. on March 18 – 20th.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Miller talked about the APTA document that was handed out at the meeting. Committee Chair Long suggested that this document also be shared with the Citizen's Advisory Committees (CAC) on the various Boards such as TBARTA and PSTA.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 AM. The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for March 7th at 9:00 AM.