



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

Committee Chair Long called the September 10, 2019 Legislative Committee meeting to order at 10:02 AM. Members present: Janet Long and Joe Barkley. Members absent: Gina Driscoll and Heather Gracy. Also present were: Brad Miller, CEO; Natalie King and Ron Pierce, RSA Consulting; RJ Myers, Suskey Consulting; and PSTA staff members. The following participated via telephone: Charlie Justice, Legislative Committee member; Harry Glenn and Steve Palmer, Van Scoyoc; and Alan Suskey, Suskey Consulting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS

Approve August 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes – Since there was no quorum present, the minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS

2020 Legislative Priorities – Mr. Miller reviewed a draft of the 2020 State Legislative priorities for the upcoming session in January. He said that the Committee meetings start next week.

[Joe Barkley entered the meeting at 10:15 AM.]

The group discussed the five draft State priorities which include: Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) proviso language; electric bus funding program; TD Late Shift/Uber continued Mobility Enhancement Grant funding; Medicaid-eligible trips; and allocation of the VW Settlement funds. Mr. Miller indicated that the only Federal Legislative priority is funding for the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project. He suggested the local delegates write a letter of support to the Federal Transit

Administration (FTA) in favor of this project. The final list of State and Federal priorities will be presented to the Legislative Committee and Board in October for approval.

Mr. Miller also provided information on a Pinellas County Schools Pilot proposal to provide improved transportation options for students at Gibbs, Largo, and Clearwater high schools in the 2020-2021 school year. He said that all students and staff at these three high schools will also be allowed to ride any PSTA transit service in Pinellas County on any day for free by displaying their high school ID badge.

The group discussed the upcoming trip to Washington, D.C. and the various meetings to be scheduled, as well as setting up trips to Tallahassee in December and March.

FUTURE MEETING SUBJECTS

2020 State and Federal Legislative priorities.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 AM. The next Legislative Committee meeting is to be determined.