



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 9, 2019

Committee Chair Long called the January 9, 2019 Legislative Committee meeting to order at 10:06 am. Members present: Janet Long, Patricia Johnson, Charlie Justice, and Joe Barkley. Also present were: Brad Miller, CEO; Kaitlyn Bailey, RSA Consulting; PSTA staff members, and members of the public. The following participated via telephone: Natalie King, RSA Consulting; Channon Hanna, Van Scoyoc; and RJ Meyers, Suskey Consulting.

Public Comment:

Carl Heissenbittel, Clearwater resident, commented on bus safety, incorrect route numbers on the beach route, as well as incorrect information provided by Customer Service. He also spoke about the hours of the day when the bathrooms at Park Street terminal are accessible.

Action Items:

Approve October 3 and November 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes – Mr. Justice made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barkley, to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Appoint Committee Chair and Vice-Chair – Mr. Justice made a motion, seconded by Mr. Barkley, to re-appoint Commissioner Long as Committee Chair for another two-year term. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Justice made a motion, seconded by Ms. Johnson, to appoint Mr. Barkley as Committee Vice-Chair. There were no public comments. Motion passed unanimously.

Information Items:

Legislative Updates/Trips – Mr. Miller discussed two upcoming trips to Tallahassee – February 11-12 and April 1-2. Ms. King spoke about the Committee weeks in Tallahassee and the process, purpose, and objectives of the scheduled meetings. Ms. Johnson thanked RSA Consulting for their help in securing meetings with the people who are responsible for Transportation Disadvantaged (TD) funding. Mr. Miller talked about PSTA's state

Legislative priorities as well as Tampa Bay Area Regional Transit Authority's (TBARTA). It was suggested that TBARTA join PSTA on the April 1-2 trip to Tallahassee.

Committee Chair Long talked about the possibility of the Brightline train travelling from Tampa to St. Petersburg. She also mentioned the branding for the Central Avenue Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project and suggested a different name be developed. Ms. Johnson informed the Committee about the four Medicare providers in Florida, and how they directly affect PSTA's Demand Response (DART) service.

Ms. Hanna provided a brief update on the government shutdown and recent developments. She mentioned that the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Administrator will need to be re-nominated. Mr. Miller discussed the five federal Legislative priorities. He indicated that there will be two trips to Washington D.C. – one in March during the American Public Transportation Association's (APTA) Legislative Conference, and one in June when the Central Avenue BRT design is further along.

Other Business:

No other business was discussed.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 am. The next Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for February 6th at 9:00 am.