



PINELLAS SUNCOAST TRANSIT AUTHORITY
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 24, 2022

Chairperson Gerard called the August 24, 2022 Board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Members present: Pat Gerard, Chairperson; Gina Driscoll, Vice-Chairperson; Richard Bennett; Vince Cocks; Deborah Figgs-Sanders, Rene Flowers, Jeff Gow; Jim Olliver; Jamie Robinson; and Josh Shulman. Members absent: Dan Saracki, David Allbritton, Patti Reed, Karen Seel, and Kathleen Peters. Also present: Brad Miller, CEO; Nikki Day, General Counsel; PSTA staff members; and members of the public.

Presentation/Awards & Recognition:

PSTA Access Testimonials – Bonnie Epstein, Director of Mobility, introduced two riders who talked about their experience using the PSTA Access service. They both had very positive comments about the service.

State of Florida Technician of the Year – Paul Levesque – Henry Lukasik, Director of Maintenance, introduced Mr. Levesque, who was selected as Florida's Technician of the Year. Mr. Levesque said a few words of appreciation.

Best Wishes Cassandra Borchers, PSTA's Chief Development Officer – Mr. Miller said a few words about Ms. Borchers, who is leaving PSTA for another opportunity.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda:

Ms. Flowers made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shulman, to approve the Consent Agenda. The Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda which included approval of the July 27, 2022 minutes and the Duke Easement Agreement.

Committee Updates:

Transit Riders Advisory Committee (TRAC) Update – Committee Chairperson, Mark O'Hara, gave an update on the August TRAC meeting.

Forward Pinellas – Ms. Driscoll gave an update on the recent Forward Pinellas meeting.

Action Items:

October 2022 Service Changes – Ms. Borchers talked about the service changes to the Route 18 and the Central Avenue Trolley that will take effect in October 2022. Questions were asked about the frequency, transfers, outreach, and crowded buses, which Ms. Borchers answered. Mr. Shulman made a motion, seconded by Mr. Olliver, to approve the October 2022 service changes. There were no public comments. The motion passed unanimously.

Information Items:

PSTA Access Update – Ms. Epstein gave an update on the PSTA Access program and spoke about a new app for the riders that was implemented in August.

Upcoming Community Bus Plan – Heather Sobush, Director of Planning, talked about PSTA's upcoming Community Bus Plan which is updated every five years. She talked about how all the area plans are integrated into the 2050 Regional Long Range Transportation Plan.

Reports and Correspondence:

The reports were Included in the packet. Mr. Miller mentioned the monthly Operating Statistics report which will be revamped in the near future. He noted that the UPASS ridership is down due to the summer break.

Future Meeting Subjects:

The Board was provided with a list of upcoming meeting subjects. Mr. Miller mentioned the SunRunner opening in October 2022, adding that Bus Operator training has begun. He also mentioned the event yesterday about the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) Grant that PSTA received.

Other Business:

No other business was discussed.

Board Member Comments:

There were no Board member comments.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chairperson Gerard adjourned the meeting at 10:09 a.m. The next meeting is September 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. which is the first Millage and Budget Public Hearing. The second Millage and Budget Hearing and regular Board meeting will be held on September 28, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Chairperson