



Regional Coordination Council (RCC7)



APPROVED Meeting Minutes 12/22/2022

Attendees:

In Person:

- Carol Brooks, SVTC
- Jane Goodman, City of Nashua
- Yvonne Goodwin, Greater Nashua NAACP
- Janet Langdell, SVTC
- Donna Marceau, Mobility Manager
- Kerry Miller, Nashua Transit System
- Sandra Pratt, Gateways /NH Brazilian Council
- Jennifer Rogers, Amerihealth Caritas

Remote:

- Michael Apfelberg, United Way of Greater Nashua
- Fred Butler, NH DOT
- Sara Ceaser, United Way of Greater Nashua
- Julian Long, Nashua Urban Programs
- Pat Murphy, Town of Merrimack Welfare
- Teri Palmer, Statewide Mobility Manager

NRPC Staff:

- Vince Noga, Transportation/Planning Analyst
- Matt Waitkins, MPO Coordinator
- Kristin Wardner, Administrative Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

Donna Marceau opened the meeting at 10:09am.

2. INTRODUCTIONS AND COMMUNITY UPDATES

Introductions were done with in-person and remote participants.

3. REVIEW OCTOBER 27, 2022, MEETING MINUTES

Marceau asked for any corrections to the October 27, 2022, meeting minutes.

Amendments:

- Page 3, 2nd to last paragraph, change “January” to “late-December”.
- Page 4, 2nd paragraph 2nd to last line: change “accessibilities” to “accessible rides”.

The October 22, 2022, minutes were approved with changes by consensus.

4. LEADERSHIP ACADEMY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH - GATE CITY REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION TEAM

Jane Goodman, Nashua Division of Public Health, explained the Leadership Academy for Public Health program. This is a nationwide effort to focus on specific public health issues, and the City of Nashua was selected for transportation. The specific name of the team is the Gate City Regional Transportation Team and its mission is to focus on a specific transportation issue. The team is comprised of Jane Goodman, the City of Nashua Public Health Department; Sam Durfee, the City of Nashua Planning Department; Susan Durkin, Lamprey Health, and Donna Marceau, NRPC Mobility Manager.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PROVIDER UPDATES

NTS

Kerry Miller gave the update:

- She went to SCC retreat on 12/14.
- Met with Sam Durfee re: Leadership Academy.
- Went to Adult Learning Center to discuss NTS services.
- In response to Sandra Pratt – she can provide travel training to an individual client.
- Langdell asked about staffing. Kerry stated there is a driver shortage still ongoing, however Jon Savage would have the specific details.
- Teri Palmer stated that many regions in the state don't necessarily work directly with transit agencies. Langdell stated that Camille Correa with NTS does normally attend the RCC7 meetings.

SVTC

Janet Langdell gave the update:

- Explained SVTC service and that they are at about 200 rides per month – split between local and Nashua. Most are medical but do other types of rides.
- In response to Sandra – they do not go into Mass. because NTS doesn't serve there. She stated there was a volunteer program that went defunct with COVID that did go into Mass. occasionally.
- There was discussion about service throughout state – Palmer weighed in and mentioned 5305e funds. Janet said funds were received for the Volunteer Driver Feasibility study.

Marceau mentioned surplus bikes that Gate City Coop donated to Newport and other northern areas. Palmer elaborated on the bike distribution and read an email from Candy Reed, Region4 Mobility Manager (she handled the distribution of the donated bikes). Palmer said it was because of this RCC that bikes are being seen as another form of viable community transportation.

5. SCC UPDATE – SCC RETREAT FOCUS

Donna gave highlights from the SCC retreat held on 12/14 and said the goal is a transportation network second to none. She mentioned the bike program discussed earlier in the meeting. Discussed other details of the meeting. All eyes are watching NH's mobility management network program. Langdell explained the mobility management network – how to implement, how to measure progress, and how to keep it sustainable. She explained the Mobility Managers work for the RCCs, even though employed by NRPC. SCC needs to work on their documents (governance and bylaws).

6. REGIONAL MOBILITY MANAGER UPDATE

Marceau –

- Calls have been on the uptick
- Discussed outreach over last month (following SCC blueprint) – meetings, public officials
- 2 goals – 1) Connected with Dawn Griska with the town of Lyndeborough. She said she didn't see a need. Informal volunteer network. Langdell stated that they have heard that there are seniors looking for rides. Difficult rural area. 2) Spoke with Yvonne from Pelham Council on Aging
- Yvonne Goodwin – suggested reaching out to doctor offices. Langdell – goal of all is to share with healthcare agencies. Discharge managers, social workers, etc.
- Discussed Wilton meeting.
- Langdell explained CommuteSmart.
- Discussed previous experience of people with transportation needs having issues getting to employment.

- Suggesting agencies submit a letter to DOT supporting a bus from Nashua to Milford. Waitkins explained there is a round of CMAQ funding and NRPC sponsored a transit proposal that was made for a fixed route from Nashua to Milford. Langdell explained in more detail. It would be a pilot. Marceau provided a sample letter to assist and asked for the letters to be sent to her. Waitkins said CMAQ application is due January 3rd. Will send the letter to those on Zoom. Goodwin suggested contacting someone from Employment security.
- Langdell – Suggested to change “on-demand” to demand response on chart handed out to make it clearer.

7. UPDATED TRANSPORTATION DIRECTORY

Marceau explained she has been working on updating the transportation directory and it is close to completion.

8. OTHER TRANSPORTATION ISSUES OR CONCERNS

Mike Apfelberg, United Way, discussed various collaborative efforts and stated there is no way to collectively communicate with the different groups. He said he is discussing a possible quarterly meeting to get all the groups together. Langdell asked if it would be meant to replace Community Connections? Apfelberg said it would be more like Community Connections 2.0.

Waitkins discussed 5305(e) funding and said the submission deadline is January 18th. He said there have been internal talks of ideas – possibly airport transportation or a town of Wilton feasibility study. He said that the application is not out yet for the 5310 funding. Fred Butler said it will be available the beginning of January.

Sandra Pratt asked about the Ledge St. School project. Waitkins explained NRPC got funding to do the study (safe routes to school) and explained the project. He said staff have gathered data and are currently working on report.

9. ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned 11:43am

NEXT MEETING:

JANUARY 26, 2023

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY KRISTIN WARDNER, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT