

Grafton-Coos Regional Coordination Council

Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2009 Littleton Regional Hospital

Mary Deppe convened the meeting at 10:15 and proceeded with introductions. Those present were:

1. Van Chesnut, Advance Transit
2. Bob Fink, Weeks Medical Center
3. Patrick Herlihy, NH DHHS
4. Gail Clark, Littleton Regional Hospital
5. Doug Grant, Transport Central
6. Patsy Kendall, Transport Central
7. Chris Dye, United Valley Interfaith Project
8. Kit Griggs, United Valley Interfaith Project
9. Beverly Raymond, TCCAP
10. Kirby Ogle, People Movers, Inc.
11. Patricia Crocker, UVLSRPC
12. Mary Deppe, North Country Council
13. Mike Izard, Lakes Region RPC

Following introductions, Mary Deppe moved to approve Minutes of the October 9 meeting as presented, seconded by Doug Grant. Motion passed unanimously.

Patrick Herlihy discussed State Coordinating Council (SCC) steps to amend the statutes defining the regional coordinating councils, their relationship to the SCC, and the liability issues of the members of RCCs. The legislation would provide immunity to RCC members for their roles as an advisory body on regional public transportation. The SCC has hired Will Rodman of Nelson, Nygaard as the mobility manager to staff the SCC and begin to implement coordination in the regions. He also announced that the Commissioner of DHHS has decided that the budget constraints currently prevent the issuance of a Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation service contract. He explained that a subcommittee of the SCC was now working on an alternative coordination strategy that regions might undertake. Lengthy discussion followed.

Bob Fink pointed out that the members are looking forward to working in more substantive way of actually determining how to implement coordination in the region.

Mary Deppe discussed the North Country Rideshare Program that has been funded to pilot in four rural communities. Michele Moren is working on the project in Whitefield, Lancaster, Northumberland and Stratford. The North Country Rideshare website will be an interface for the NH DoT to link into their Rideshare system. They have been working with Joan Clinton at NH DoT on this project. Patrick recommended that Mary look at Contoocook Valley RPC. Van Chesnut noted that Upper Valley Rideshare has been doing this for 17 years and he pointed out that there are differences between

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Rideshare and Ridematch and there is little funding available for implementing the Rideshare component.

Bob Fink suggested that rather than having separate advisory councils for different projects, that the G-C RCC also offer advisory services to projects like Rideshare which are associated with coordination.

Van Chesnut noted that there isn't enough shared information about what each region is providing in terms of human and public transportations services currently available. Discussion followed about how to capture the information about the actual services needs. Information systems are critical to data collection and part of the work plan for the RCC for the coming year. He also suggested that driver training programs, affordable IT systems, and help establishing operating standards would be a good way to keep stakeholders involved.

United Valley Interfaith Project representatives Kitt Griggs and Chris Dye reported that they had done some analysis that indicated that getting to the reasons for cancellations that correlate to missed appointments and trying to mine data to find out unmet needs at Alice Peck Day Hospital had been useful on that project, and might be replicated. Pat Crocker will follow up on that.

Discussion followed on the subject of cooperative relationships between the private and public sector as well as the general economics of public and private transportation.

The next agenda item was the draft application of the RCC to the SCC. Numerous suggestions were offered to revise and correct the draft. Pat Crocker will complete a new draft and send it out on Monday, December 14 for review and editing. The edits/comments must be in by the end of the day on December 20. Pat Crocker was given instructions to then complete the application and submit it on Monday, December 21, 2009, so that it could be reviewed and approved by the SCC at its January 7 meeting.

Formation of a Nominating Committee was discussed. All agreed to build in time for a Nominating Committee meeting to follow the January meeting of the RCC. The location for the meeting was tentatively suggested to be Lebanon or somewhere at the southern end of the region, depending on the availability of meeting space. A list of suggested committees will also be circulated for review.

The next scheduled meeting is January 8, 2010, from 10AM to 12PM. Location to be later determined.

Patsy Kendall moved Kirby Ogle seconded a motion to adjourn at 12:30 PM.

(Pending Approval on January 8, 2010)