

MINUTES
STARTRAN ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
StarTran Conference Room 2
September 4, 2014
(Rescheduled from 8/28/14)

Members Present: Mike DeKalb, Jason Hellbusch, Don Herz, Jenni Lesoing-Lucs,
Linda Carter

Members Absent: Janet Goodman-Banks, Stephen Speicher

Staff Present: Mike Davis, Mike Weston, Brian Praeuner, Scott Tharnish, Kitty Elliott,
Connie Thoreson

I. REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Chairman DeKalb opened the meeting, noting the Open Meetings Act and Patron Conduct Notice posted on the north wall.

A. Patrons to be Heard

None

B. Review/Action Items

- **May 29, 2014 StarTran Advisory Board Meeting Minutes** - A motion for approval was made by Ms. Lesoing-Lucs and seconded by Mr. Herz to approve the 5/29/14 minutes as submitted. The 5/29/14 StarTran Advisory Board Minutes were approved 4-0 (Lesoing-Lucs, DeKalb, Herz, and Hellbusch all voted "aye"; Carter not yet present).
- **Election of Chair and Vice Chair** – Ms. Lesoing-Lucs made a motion for Mike DeKalb and Don Herz to continue as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. The motion was seconded by Ms. Carter. The vote was unanimously in favor of said motion. (Lesoing-Lucs, Carter, Hellbusch, DeKalb, and Herz all voted "aye").

C. Operations Report

- Kitty Elliott noted that StarTran attended the Big Red Welcome at UNL on August 24th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. with a new CNG bus. With 5,000 students in attendance StarTran received great exposure and were kept very busy informing attendees of services provided between City and East campus.
- Mike Davis mentioned that Big Red Express services for the first UNL home football game were down about \$3,000 compared to last year. This may be due to more available parking in the downtown area.
- LPS Open Houses were again attended by StarTran staff, selling passes and giving route information.
- Ridership YTD is up, in part, due to expanded UNL services and possibly the reduced 31-day pass price.

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- The Gold's fence project has been awarded to American Fence Company. As soon as the contract is signed and parts are received, installation will begin and it is anticipated to be completed by mid-November. Mr. DeKalb asked that the configuration be looked at in order that the space is not entirely enclosed.
- The HandiVan trip numbers are down 25% for StarTran and brokered trips. It is thought to be partly related to the new Contractor (Servant Cab), which is working through issues at monthly meetings with StarTran staff. Late pick-ups have been the main issue and Servant Cab has been responsive to concerns. Contributing factors to the lateness issue are thought to be, loss of drivers to new cab companies and LPS agreement commitments. Servant Cab is meeting the requirement of being 95% on time. StarTran is addressing issues immediately in order to encourage a successful contract with Servant Cab. Servant Cab drivers are encouraged to attend sensitivity training and are required to attend drug/alcohol training.
- The evening Star Shuttle service that ran from mid-April to mid-July (Thursday through Saturday) reported low ridership. Low ridership is thought to be in part due to UNL not being in session and parking being provided to Haymarket employees.
- StarTran supplemented with an extra bus on the Star Shuttle route for three hours each day of the Ribfest.
- Ridership on the newly implemented daytime Star Shuttle route has been down, however there has been construction and detours that have inhibited it from operating as designed.
- Budget for the Fiscal Year 2013-14 was good, noting savings on fuel and the new Brokerage contract. There was also a slight increase in revenue received from the State. Scott Tharnish will prepare a financial report for the last fiscal year, to be reviewed by the Board.
- Transit Development Plan (TDP) proposals have been received for consultant selection. It is anticipated that the process will begin by November with a draft report possible by summer, 2015.
- Eight additional CNG buses are on order, with four to be delivered in January, 2015 and the other four in October, 2015,
- The StarTran elevator is in process of being redone and is anticipated to be completed in early October, 2015.

D. Other Business

- The Advisory Board received a letter from Goodwill Industries requesting service to a new store they are building at 6300 Apples Way. StarTran staff indicated this will be addressed with the TDP in the coming year. There is not enough time on the current route near this location to extend it to accommodate the request.

E. Patrons to be Heard

None

G. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2014, 8:00 a.m. in the StarTran Conference Room #2.