

Alliance for Community Transportation (ACT)

Working to expand affordable and efficient community transportation in southeastern New Hampshire

MEETING OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

9 – 10:30AM

McCONNELL CENTER, 61 LOCUST ST, ROOM 305 DOVER, NH

ZOOM



Minutes

1. Introductions

Members Present:

Betty Smith (Ready Rides), Rad Nichols (COAST), Scott Bogle (Rockingham Planning Commission), Debbie Perou (Rockingham Nutrition Meals on Wheels), Cheryl Robicheau (Community Action Partnership of Strafford County), Colin Lentz (Strafford RPC), Tahja Fulwider (Ready Rides),

Members attending virtually: Kate Sullivan (Community Partners), Maria Reyes (Lamprey Health Care/Seacoast Public Health Network).

Others Present: Jeff Donald (COAST), Teri Palmer (Statewide Mobility Manager)

2. ACT membership

J. Donald said he had reached out to multiple members who had not participated for some time. Several of them designated new representatives to ACT.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

B. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by S. Bogle

R. Nichols noted that the meeting date needed to be changed to Wednesday July 13th, not September 7th

Vote: unanimous in favor

4. Updates and Statistics

J. Donald presented recent trip data. He said not all August data were ready in time for the meeting. There were some lower trip numbers because of fewer service days in the previous month. ADA is taking a smaller proportion of trips; Strafford CAP is taking more.

TripLink application data: in July 44 people applied for 104 services. Most people are primarily using one service but signing up for more.

J. Donald reviewed June trip purpose data by frequency, age cohort, and service. Members said it would be helpful to see ADA trip purposes separately. Members discussed how to present trip purpose data to inform service planning.

BARRINGTON
BRENTWOOD
BROOKFIELD
DOVER
DURHAM
EAST KINGSTON
EPPING
EXETER
FARMINGTON
FREMONT
GREENLAND
HAMPTON
HAMPTON FALLS
KENSINGTON
KINGSTON
LEE
MADBURY
MIDDLETON
MILTON
NEW CASTLE
NEW DURHAM
NEWFIELDS
NEWINGTON
NEWMARKET
NEWTON
NORTH HAMPTON
NORTHWOOD
NOTTINGHAM
PORTSMOUTH
ROCHESTER
ROLLINSFORD
RYE
SEABROOK
SOMERSWORTH
SOUTH HAMPTON
STRAFFORD
STRATHAM
WAKEFIELD

J. Donald said he was still working on getting towns to include a link to TripLink on their websites. Recently seven towns had added a direct link; two included info in a local newsletter.

5. SFY22 Year End Budget

J. Donald reviewed the budget and said it was in good shape. Everyone except Ready Rides is over budget. This is expected for CAP.

In July – September 2021 ride requests for Community Rides spiked; ACT received additional funding from the Endowment for Health to help meet the increased demand, but demand subsided, nonetheless. This may have been due to the denials that riders received during the summer. Community Rides is over budget for July and August again this year, but Donald is allowing that happen for the time being, and will see if the demand naturally subsides again this year. If not, the monthly allowance will need to be reduced, or ACT will need to use some of its held funds to cover any overages. J. Donald reiterated that the non-transportation portion budget is primarily made up of FTA 5310 funds for mobility management and an STBG grant. The budget has been spending down the STBG first because it requires no match, then using the 5310MM. NHDOT has clarified that the noncash match generated by Ready Rides can also be used to match the Mobility Manager portion of the 5310 funds in the ACT budget.

Members discussed the possibility of getting additional toll credits from the state to use as match.

The Year-end budget for SFY22 was 1% underbudget overall (\$8,082) – and has been carried over to SFY23. Any unspent FTA funds from SFY23 will not get carried over into SFY24.

6. Nominations for Vice Chair

Cheryl nominated Scott Bogle as vice chair. Betty Smith seconded
Members will vote at the November meeting

7. Coordinated Plan

S. Bogle explained that he and C. Lentz are working on developing some focus groups for additional input. RPC and SRPC are working on pulling census data for needs analysis. They are planning on having some draft chapters for review by the board in November.

8. Outreach Activities

C. Robicheau said she was working on getting an ACT 20th anniversary group photo.
S. Bogle said he had done initial outreach to encourage towns to use local option fee revenues to support community transportation.

9. Workplan Check-in

J. Donald has been calling various stakeholders and learned that Somersworth housing authority has a small transportation program.

10. SCC Updates

Jeff said he had been working with SCC members on potential statewide performance measures
T. Palmer reviewed her recent work as the new statewide mobility manager and gave an update on statewide projects under development.

11. Info Exchange

T. Fulwider said Ready Rides had participated at a Newmarket community event called the “Newmarket Bash” that had games to promote local/regional services. Through that she got 2-3 new volunteer driver applications that came in after then event. She also made connections with local assisted living facilities. Ready Rides recently started operating in Epping but is having trouble getting volunteer drivers.
C. Robicheau encouraged people to promote utility and rental assistance programs to their riders.

12. Public Comment

No comments were brought before the board

13. Adjournment

D. Perou made a motion to adjourn; seconded by C. Robicheau
Vote: unanimous in favor