

Alliance for Community Transportation (ACT)

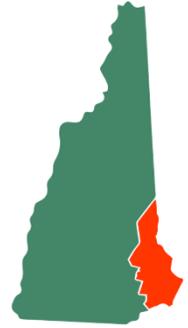
Working to expand affordable and efficient community transportation in southeastern New Hampshire

MEETING OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024
9 – 10:30AM

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85311601180?pwd=Vm5qRDJDZVVhVIRCSjVGY2ION1FOdz09>



MINUTES

Members In-person:

Betty Smith (Ready Rides), Tahja Fulwider (Ready Rides), Colin Lentz (Strafford Regional Planning Commission), Rad Nichols (COAST), Cheryl Robicheau (Community Action Partnership of Strafford County), Helen Kostrzynski (Rockingham Nutrition MOW), Scott Bogle (Rockingham Planning Commission),

Members Online:

Yosita Thanjai (Seacoast Public Health Network), Susane Peace (Future In Sight), Lisa Ludwigsen (Easterseals), Kate Sullivan (Community Partners), Billie Tooley (One Sky)

Guests:

Maggie Padgett (SOS Recovery), Teri Palmer (Statewide Mobility Manager)

Staff: Jeff Donald

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes {VOTE}

B. Smith made a motion to accept the minutes as written; seconded by C. Robicheau

Vote: Unanimous in favor

3. Updates & Statistics

J. Donald reported January data as February ridership had not been tabulated yet. Most services are seeing good growth or are stable.

4. Semi-Annual TripLink and Provider Reports

J. Donald presented recent data from the Common Application, demographics of people applying for services, and breakdowns of rider frequency and trip purposes. He noted that most users who submit the application by paper tend to have more problems completing it correctly. T. Fulwider noted that the online system confuses some applicants because the button that says "Apply for Transportation" remains at the top of the screen, and it lacks a clear "finish" button and a confirmation notice. J. Donald noted that he recently realized that the Application is consistently displaying the completed submission page and is working with the web developers to fix it.

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

5. ACT Bylaws Update

J. Donald recapped the effort by the Statewide Coordinating Council (SCC) to develop universal bylaws for all RCCs. There will not be a requirement to adopt them, but the goal of consistent bylaws is valuable. The draft bylaws are fairly close to ACT's current bylaws. The Executive Committee has reviewed the bylaws and made comments or recommended changes. J. Donald reviewed several changes he would be recommending to the SCC for the final version. ACT will be retaining its current definition of a quorum for ACT board meetings. The draft statewide bylaws do a better job setting the context and definitions around the RCC role.

J. Donald said the Executive Committee would review and vote on the draft bylaws prior to bringing them before the full board for a vote at the May meeting.

6. Partner Update: Maggie Padgett, SOS Recovery Community Organization

M. Padgett provided a presentation on the work of SOS and its programs to help people in recovery from substance use and homelessness. She described transportation barriers to the people they serve. Many SOS members and clients are not eligible for ACT provider services. Some members are on Medicaid but CTS is inconsistent; other services like taxis will not pick up people because of stigma about people in recovery, or because the pickup location is in a "dangerous area". Direct purchase of bus passes by SOS is not financially sustainable.

7. Outreach Activities

J. Donald said he is working with Exeter to develop a training video on how to use Route 7 on-demand. He and Rad attended a transportation forum that will lead to a legislative breakfast to engage with state lawmakers. J. Donald briefly described other recent and future outreach events he's involved with. He recently had a very positive meeting about future collaboration with the Seacoast Welfare Directors Association.

8. 5310 Capital Funding – RCC Participation Requirement

J. Donald noted that applying for capital funding requires participation with the RCC. The State is enforcing this requirement and explaining to agencies that to successfully apply for 5310 funds for vehicles, they will need to participate with their RCC.

9. Statewide Updates

No statewide updates.

10. Information Exchange

No items for information exchange.

11. Miscellaneous

J. Donald asked if members had other transportation-adjacent items to discuss related to seniors or people with disabilities. He referenced similar agencies that coordinate transportation, but also organize volunteers to do yard work, shopping, home maintenance, etc.

T. Fulwider suggested a program through local public libraries to help seniors complete online tasks like buying groceries for delivery.

Members discussed various examples.

Adjournment

B. Smith made a motion to adjourn; seconded by S. Bogle

Vote: Unanimous in favor