

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SOUTHWEST OHIO REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF: Regular Meeting of the SORTA Board of Trustees

DATE: Tuesday, July 17, 2012, 9:00 a.m.
The SORTA/Metro Mt. Adams Board Room
602 Main Street, Suite 1200
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT: Frank Bowen; Suzanne Burke; Todd Cooper; Jason Dunn; Tom Hodges;
Gregg Hothem; William L. Mallory, Sr.; Ken Reed; Gwen Robinson; Karl
Schultz; Lamont Taylor; Brad Thomas; Joe Zimmer

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS: Terry Garcia Crews; Donna Adkins; Perriann Allen; Bill Desmond;
Inez Evans; Butch Gaut; Tim Harrington; Darryl Haley; Sallie Hilvers;
Lou Ann Hock; Kim Lahman; Mary Moning; Mike Ongkiko; Wright Parkes;
Alex Reed; Mike Restle

OTHERS: Brian Gay, City of Cincinnati; Tom Luken; Troy Hoskins, ATU Local 627;
Mark Malone, National Express; Troy Miller, ATU Local 627; Tony
Osterlund, Vorys Sater Seymour & Pease; Andrew Rogers

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hodges, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Reed made a motion that the minutes of the June 19, 2012 regular meeting be approved as previously mailed, and Mr. Cooper seconded the motion. By voice vote, the Board approved the minutes.

CEO COIN PRESENTATION

Ms. Garcia Crews presented a CEO coin to Andrew Rogers, who was recently inducted into the Two Million Mile Club.

HEARINGS FROM CITIZENS

Mr. Miller congratulated Mr. Rogers on his accomplishment. Mr. Miller then introduced Troy Hoskins, Financial Secretary-Treasurer of ATU Local 627 and expressed his appreciation for all the support Mr. Hoskins gives him. Mr. Miller also expressed concern regarding possible budget issues/layoffs due to the large number of new positions currently being hired.

Mr. Luken spoke in support of the board continuing SORTA's lawsuit against the City of Cincinnati to prevent the city taking money from the transit fund for non-transit purposes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Planning & Operations Committee**

Proposed Resolution No. 2012-16: Approval of Agreement with Asset Ohio Fourth Street for Funding the Route 85 riverfront Parking Shuttle

Mr. Taylor moved for adoption, and Mr. Reed seconded the motion. This resolution approves the proposed five-year (August 1, 2012-July 31, 2017) agreement between SORTA and Asset Ohio to allow employees, agents and contractors of tenants and/or occupants of Atrium One to ride the Route 85 parking shuttle free upon presenting a valid Atrium One Fare card. Asset Ohio will pay SORTA \$132,000 for the service during the first year of the agreement. Future terms will be negotiated annually.

By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2012-16.

Executive Committee

Mr. Hodges reported the committee met on July 17. He stated there are no action items at this time.

June Financial Reports and Ridership Report

Mr. Restle presented the June financial report. Total revenues were about \$7 million, which is slightly under budget by \$13,000. Total expenses were about \$7.2 million, which is unfavorable to budget by \$109,000. This results in an overall net deficit for the month of about \$122,000. Year-to-date we are overall favorable to budget by \$338,000.

Mr. Haley presented the June ridership summary report. Regular ridership was down 0.8%, which equates to over 10,000 rides. School ridership is up 39.8% for May 2012 compared to May 2011, and 25.7% above budget year-to-date. Paratransit service is 7.8% below 2011. Total ridership for the month is 2.9% above 2011 and 0.5% above budget. Mr. Haley also reported that the partnership with the City of Cincinnati for a "free ride" day on June 25 was a success. About 1,000 people who worked for the City rode the bus that day.

Ms. Hock presented the transit fund report for June. Projected revenue through May was estimated at \$23,584,880 with actual revenue totaling \$23,838,956 for a difference of \$254,076. Monthly projected expenses were estimated at \$22,784,028 with actual expenses totaling \$22,901,776 for a deficit of \$117,748.

CEO'S REPORT

Ms. Crews then provided the CEO's report. The real-time information screens are working well and there is a plan to add real time information screens at Glenway Crossing and the Uptown transit district. There has been much interest in the paratransit request for proposals. In August Metro will participate in a state-wide webinar to explain to vendors how to do business with us. Ms. Crews has been accepted into Leadership Cincinnati Class 36, which will begin in September.

Mr. A. Reed presented a slide show of the Portland/Eugene, Oregon, streetcar/BRT trip that Ms. Garcia Crews, Ms. Hock, Ms. Evans and Mr. Thomas participated in in June. Ms. Robinson noted that the streetcar line in Portland connected people to major destinations such as the airport, hospitals and universities, which assured its popularity.

Mr. Reed then showed a wonderful video detailing Metro's participation in the World Choir Games. An additional 58,000 trips were taken by participants and visitors. Kudos were given to Ms. Evans for the great job she did preparing for the Games and responding to emergencies during the 10-day competition. Ms. Crews then presented Ms. Evans with a Rookwood plaque as a thank you for all of her hard work. Staff is also discussing an organizational-wide celebration to be held later this summer.

Ms. Crews then provided an update on the strategic plan. The tasks listed on the plan are 88% completed or on-plan. The comprehensive organizational analysis will be completed and published at the end of this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Desmond provided an update on the Oasis Bike Trail. Bike path supporters such as the Ohio River Way (ORW) would like to use 4 miles of the rail line owned by SORTA for a bike trail that runs from Lunken Airport to Friendship Park. The FTA is against this plan, but ORW has been working with the FTA to get them to reconsider their stance. Mr. Thomas suggested that we investigate if another bike path is going to be constructed along Riverside Drive which would make the Oasis Line bike path unnecessary.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting of the SORTA Board is scheduled for Tuesday, August 21, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. in the SORTA/Metro Board Room, 602 Main Street, Suite 1200, Cincinnati, Ohio.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Reed made a motion that the Board go into Executive Session as provided in Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22 (G)(3) for "conferences with an attorney . . . concerning disputes that are the subject of pending or imminent court action . . .". Mr. Schultz seconded the motion. By roll call vote, the Board unanimously approved the motion and went into Executive Session at 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Hothem made a motion that the Board return to regular session, and Ms. Burke seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved the motion and returned to regular session at 10:40 a.m.


The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

APPROVED:

ATTESTED:



J. Thomas Hodges
Chair



Lou Ann Hock
Secretary-Treasurer