

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE

Minutes

January 28, 2016

1. Self-Introductions of Members, Staff and Guests

Members:

Janet Abelson
Randall Glock
Janice Armigo Brown
Peter Crockwell
Don Queen
Hale Zukas
Clarence Fischer
Gerry Newell
Herb Hastings
Alan Smith
Larry Bunn
Megan O'Brien – (ABSENT)
Brandon Young
Roland Wong
Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez

BART Staff present: Ike Nnaji, Bob Franklin

Directors, Speaker(s), Guest Staff, and Guests of the Public:

Elena Vanloo (BART),
Susan Poliwka (BART), Tian Feng (BART),
Carl Orman (BART), Hassen Veshir (BART),
Janice Dispo (Stenographer)

2. Public Comments

Randall Glock shared some comments that he received from a member of the public, who was concerned with the lack of updates regarding Super Bowl City and the impact it will have on BART.

Ike Nnaji stated that some of those concerns will be addressed during the Staff Announcements.

3. Approval of Minutes of October 22, November 12, and December 9, 2015 Meetings

Randall Glock asked why the October minutes were withheld from members for approval.

He moved to approve the November meeting minutes, with a second by Janet Abelson. He moved that the December minutes not be approved. Although it is shown on the agenda, the minutes were not yet prepared as of the time of the January meeting, with a second by Janet Abelson.

A brief discussion was held regarding the status of the minutes.

Randall Glock withdrew his prior motions from the table.

Herb Hastings moved to not approve the October minutes, second by Alan Smith. Motion passes with one abstention from Randall Glock.

Janet Abelson stated that Alan Smith, as chairperson, should not make or second any motions.

No opposition to Gerry Newell's motion to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2015 meeting, with a second by Janet Abelson. Motion passes unanimously.

No opposition to Herb Hasting's motion to defer the approval of the minutes of the December 9, 2015 meeting to be held during the February meeting, second by Clarence Fischer. Motion passes unanimously.

4. Montgomery/Embarcadero Project Update

After the update given by Susan Poliwka, members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had.

Clarence Fischer asked that staff consider having multiple escalators going in opposite directions rather than two staircases and a one-way escalator.

Hale Zukas suggested removing the "down" button in the elevator so as to deter fare evasion from someone trying to enter BART from the MUNI level.

Herb Hastings asked if the notifications on the platform screens can be done system-wide.

More information on this topic can be found at <http://www.bart.gov/sfplatforms>

5. Union City Project Update

After the update given by Hassan Veshir, members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had.

Janet Abelson said that taking the elevators out one at a time seems to double the inconvenience by prolonging the length of time for the closures.

Randall Glock requested that station agents be prepared with the current contact information for Paratransit.

6. Lafayette Intermodal Upgrade

After the presentation given by Tian Feng, members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had.

Clarence Fischer requested that there be sufficient seats available at both the “Kiss and Ride” areas and at the bus stops.

7. Universal Design Concept

After the presentation given by Tian Feng and Carl Orman, members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had.

Ike Nnaji stated that the user groups need to be expanded to include both “Hearing Impaired” and “Deaf.”

A brief discussion was held regarding editing and refining the categories.

Randall Glock suggested putting in signs at the center of every platform to direct users to elevators.

Tian Feng suggested coming back to give members quarterly reports, beginning with the April BATF meeting.

8. Capital Project Status Reports

Station Hearing Loop

Earlier in the meeting, Carl Orman stated that an update will come in several weeks.

Berryessa/Milpitas Stations

A construction tour is to be scheduled for a day during the summer; eligible for travel reimbursement per Ike Nnaji.

Alan Smith told members about newspaper articles being released, talking about funding for the San Jose Extension, and the impact of funding from low sales tax revenues.

No updates were given for the following projects:

El Cerrito Del Norte
Oakland Airport Connector
Union City Station Remodel
Fleet of the Future
eBART
Warm Springs Station
Civic Center Station Upgrade
Montgomery Station Upgrade
Concord Station Upgrade
Dublin/Pleasanton Project
Entrance Canopies
Berkeley Station Upgrade
Stair Tread Color Contrast
Richmond Intermodal Project
Powell Street Station Upgrade
Embarcadero Station Upgrade
West Dublin Path of Travel
Track Maintenance

9. Holiday Reception Debrief

At the December 17, 2015 Board of Directors meeting, Alan Smith was given an opportunity to talk about the Holiday Reception, wherein he thanked Bob Franklin for his efforts.

Members felt that the room did not accommodate wheelchair users well enough.

No opposition to Janet Abelson's motion to continue having a holiday reception each year, with a second by Gerry Newell.
Motion passes unanimously.

10. Proposed Dates for November/December Meetings

The proposed date for the November meeting is Wednesday, November 9, 2016.

The proposed date for the December meeting and Holiday Reception is Wednesday, December 14, 2016.

No opposition to Herb Hastings' motion to approve the proposed dates for the November and December meetings, with a second by Gerry.
Motion passes unanimously.

11. Chairperson Announcements

Alan Smith told members that the BATF was publicly acknowledged by outgoing Board President Tom Blalock at the last board meeting.

Tom Radulovich is the new Board president, and Gail Murray is the new vice president, effective this year.

Members are to meet with Aaron Weinstein before the next BATF meeting to continue Fleet of the Future conversations.

Alan Smith and Clarence Fischer presented an annual report to the Board on January 14th. Director McPartland expressed an interest in learning about the project regarding hearing loops.

The next Board retreat will be a one-day event to be held on February 25, 2016 at the Sheraton Palace Hotel in San Francisco.

All Braille signs are being wiped down during every shift.

12. Staff Announcements

Susan Poliwka gave a quick update regarding Super Bowl 50 and addressed members' concerns.

Elena Vanloo told members about a detectable pathway survey that is on BART's website that is available for anyone to take. The survey can be found by going to <http://www.bart.gov/guide/accessibility>.

Information on how to make reasonable modification requests can also be found by visiting BART's website at <http://www.bart.gov/guide/accessibility>.

13. Member Announcements

Randall Glock made a request for Alan Smith to slow down during the meetings. He stated that there often are numerous topics to cover in a short amount of time, and

having to rush through things in the meeting is not helpful for anyone using the aid of an interpreter or captioner. Because of all the different disabilities, members are having trouble keeping up with what's going on, especially when motions are being made for them to vote on.

He also requested that Alan Smith remove non-members from e-mail blasts, and to include the members that have been left out.

He expressed concern that the BATF did not have information on the report that was made to the Board. (The BATF annual report was distributed in December with the agenda.)

He expressed his frustration that important topics are being left out of the agenda, like Super Bowl City, for example.

Travel reimbursement was submitted to Clipper. Members are to e-mail Randall Glock to confirm receipt or non-receipt of funds.

Randall Glock made a request of Alan Smith that when he submits travel reimbursement for approval, he also includes a list of members who were in attendance.

Clarence Fischer told members to be aware of schedule changes on February 9th on the Pittsburg/Baypoint – SFO line, as well as the Fremont line.

Don Queen commented that the train is louder than any announcements being made.

14. Future Agenda Topics

- Priority use of elevator (suggested by Tian Feng)
- Incorrect “door open” announcements
- Disabled fare chart

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting of **Thursday, February 25, 2016, at 2:00 p.m., at 1750 Broadway in Oakland, California.**