



**TRANSIT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2019 – 10:00 A.M.**

ATTENDANCE

- Voting Membership (one vote per entity)
 - City of DeKalb: Bryan Faivre
 - City of Sycamore: Mark Bushnell (Chair)
 - DeKalb County: Kathy Ostdick (Vice-chair)
 - NIU: John Heckmann
 - NIU Student Association: Renee Fuqua
 - Kishwaukee College: not present
 - VAC: Mike Neuenkirchen
- Non-Voting Attendance
 - DSATS staff: Nathan Schwartz
 - Transit staff: Marcus Cox, Sabrina Kuykendall

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bushnell called the meeting to order and established a quorum at 10:02 AM.

1. Introductions

Introduction of members present was made.

2. Administrative Agenda

a. Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the December 4, 2019 meeting agenda made by Mr. Faivre; seconded by Mr. Heckmann; approved by voice vote.

b. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the November 6, 2019 meeting minutes made by Mr. Neuenkirchen; seconded by Mr. Faivre; approved by voice vote.

c. Public Comments

None.

3. Governance Agenda

No business.

4. Transit Agenda

a. Daily Shuttle Service to Elburn Train Station Update

Transit staff provided an update on increased daily shuttle service to the Elburn Metra train station (Route 12). Mr. Cox reported there have been 1,250 riders in the first 8 weeks. Friday and Sunday are the busiest days with 508 and 288 rides respectively. Staff is working on getting ticket pricing information to students. They are considering a second, early morning shuttle which would leave DuSable Hall at 7 am. Mr. Cox was

asked about the number of student riders compared to general public riders. He reported he does not have exact number but plans to look more deeply into this after the start of the new year. Both transit staff and VAC have had a number of inquiries about this service from the general public.

b. Public Transit Service to Park 88

Mr. Cox of the transit staff provided an update on expanded service to south DeKalb including access to Park 88, Harvestore Drive, S 7th Street, and S 10th Street (Route 19). In the first 6 weeks, there have been 626 rides. He reported overall there has been good ridership. The early morning and noon routes are especially popular. Staff is still trying to provide information to residents to help them understand the system. Mr. Cox was asked what bus is being used. He stated a 30 ft, super-medium duty bus with 30 seats is being used. It is a gasoline bus rather than a diesel bus and gets about double the miles per gallon compared to the normal transit buses. He also reported on Route 19S, the school route. Staff has reached out to the schools and will provide more emphasis to help people better use the service. Mr. Cox was asked the costs of these and other routes. He stated all routes except Elburn are free for students, 50¢ for general public, 25¢ for seniors and the disabled. The Elburn route is \$4 for students, seniors and the disabled and \$8 for the general public.

c. Similar University / Community Transit Systems within Illinois

Mr. Cox of the transit staff provided a thorough comparison of our existing transit service to other similar transit agencies within Illinois. NIU was compared to UIUC & ISU. Western was going to be part of the study but it didn't have complete data available. Both UIUC and ISU are standalone Mass Transit Districts and were started in the early 1970s. They also provide complimentary paratransit services which means they only operate ¼ mile outside the City. DeKalb paratransit extends much further. Many comparisons were evaluated including number of passengers on both fixed and paratransit routes, area and population served, DOAP funding available and actually used, other revenue streams, fleet size, and budgets. Mr. Cox reported the other transit systems were very helpful during this study and have provided some new ideas for our own transit system.

d. Year-to-Date Transit Statistics

Mr. Cox of the transit staff provided an update on various transit statistics year-to-date including ridership, revenue hours, and revenue mileage. The ridership to date for 2019 stands at 931,487. Total revenue hours are at 80,831 and revenue miles are at 931,555. After a question, Mr. Cox stated route service continues but changes during breaks and the summer.

5. Closing Agenda

a. Staff and Project Updates

No additional updates.

b. What's New with Our State and Federal Partners

No comments.

c. Additional Business

None.

d. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Neuenkirchen; seconded by Mr. Faivre; meeting adjourned at 10:51 AM.

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Transit Subcommittee at a subsequent meeting.