

New Hampshire Rail Transit Authority

Chair: Thomas Mahon
Vice Chair: Katherine Hersh

Meeting Summary

April 26, 2013

10:00 am

Concord NH

LOB 203

Present: Thomas Mahon, Malcolm Taylor, Mike Tardiff, Sean Owen, David Preece, Tim Moore, Patrick Herlihy, Nancy Larson, Ted Starkweather, Mark Brewer, Stephen Pesci, Sandra Keans, Michael King

- I. Call to order** – Chair Mahon called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.
- II. Public Input** – No public input was received.
- III. Minutes of February 22, 2013** – Motion by David Preece, TO ACCEPT. Second by Ted Starkweather. Vote 11-0-1, Steve Pesci -Abstain.

IV. Updates

a. NH Capital Corridor

Patrick Herlihy updated the board. URS and DOT met with an additional 12 additional stakeholders since the Board's March meeting. Mr. Herlihy reported that the first Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for May 14th at 10 AM. No location has been selected. The committee has 23 members.

The Study's First public meeting will be Wednesday June 5, from 7-9pm in Aldermanic Chambers in Manchester City Hall.

The selection of the NHRTA Consultant is awaiting final action by the Board on the Memorandum of Agreement. Once the MOA is accepted and reviewed, it will be placed on the Governor and Council Agenda.

Chairman Mahon requested a motion on the approval of the Memorandum of Agreement between the NHDOT and the NHRTA. It was moved by Malcolm Taylor and seconded by David Preece, to approve the final wording of the Agreement. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Legislation

Chairman Mahon informed the Board that he had received an e-mail from Tim Moore with language for possible changes to the NHRTA enabling legislation and By-laws. Patrick Herlihy was given a copy of the e-mail. Chairman Mahon asked the Board to review the language and a meeting would be scheduled at the next Board meeting to begin work on any proposed changes.

c. Plaistow

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Patrick Hetlihy reported that the NHDOT was in negotiations with the successful bidder and wording changes in an addendum were at the Attorney General's office for review.

d. Exeter Station

No news.

e. Hampton Branch Line

Patrick Herlihy reported that the CMAQ Committee approved \$5 million matched with toll credits for the development of the 9 mile for the rail trail. The project will not get into the Surface transportation Plan until July. There is still no agreement on price for the transfer of the line from Pan Am Railway to NHDOT. This is the first trail developed by NHDOT and concerns were expressed regarding on-going maintenance.

Chairman Mahon reported receiving an e-mail from Robert Hall regarding the project. Mr. Hall reported that track was being removed. Chairman Mahon queried the Board regarding scheduling a future discussion regarding conversion of abandoned rail lines into trails and some of the concerns raised by Mr. Hall. There was no sentiment for such a discussion.

V. Outreach

Tom Mahon reported that he appeared on a cable program in Manchester to discuss the feasibility studies.

VI. Other Discussion

Steve Pesci reported that the Downeaster has carried over 500,000 from Durham riders since it began service in December 2001. Overall, the service has carried over 4 million riders since the start in 2001.

There will be a FTA funded study regarding the build out of the Durham station's "north Canopy." He was also planning on contacting the UNH Law School in Concord and UNH-Manchester to encourage their involvement in the Capital Corridor Study.

Mark Brewer reported meeting with Jeff Rose the new Commission of DRED.

VII. Adjourn

Tim Moore made a motion to adjourn, seconded by David Preece.

Meeting ended at 10:39.

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas Mahon, Chairman

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