

Minutes
Citizens Advisory Board
Tuesday, December 17, 2019

I. Roll Call

Meeting called to order at 10:06 – no quorum present

Present: Richard Bascomb, Adam Kerman, Jemal Powell, Sheila Schwartz (left at 11:10 a.m.)

Absent: Lucille Zucchero, Ericka Williams, Sheila Schultz, Mir Ali

Other Attendees: Rocky Donahue, Lorraine Snorden, Erik Lewellyn, Christian Turner, Karl Liede and Alex Garcia.

II. Approval of Agenda

No quorum present to approve agenda.

III. Approval of Minutes

No quorum present to approve agenda.

a. September 17, 2019

b. May 25, 2019

IV. Co-Chairmen's Report

Co-Chairman Kerman spoke highly of Sheila Schulz, who is retiring. He passed around a card for everyone to sign.

V. Member Comments

Mr. Powell commented on the work of the Pace Board and their approval of the 2020 budget. Certain issues came to light that River Oaks service was taken out of the mall. It appears the situation is getting better. One of the issues included the routing change for Route 364. Mr. Llewellyn clarified the situation with River Oaks, 364, 353 and 358. Pace wanted to make sure the routes meet at the one location during the week. Co-Chairman Kerman asked about shelters at that location. Mr. Llewellyn replied shelters will be installed. Co-Chairman Kerman was concerned about a survey he read in which Pace received a "B" grade involving public participation. He wants to make sure there is a written policy to fall back on.

VI. 2020 Meeting Schedule

The committee reviewed the proposed meeting schedule for 2020. March 17, June 16, September 15 and December 15. This will be taken for a vote when there is a quorum.

In the meantime, this schedule will be posted, subject to change. Co-Chairman Kerman stated the schedule is acceptable.

VII. North Shore Coordination Study Phase II Update

Chairman Kerman suggested that we take a lesson from a similar situation 2017. Pace separately publicized the study on a school by school basis. Pace provided a route by route overview for New Trier, Loyola, Northfield and Glenview school districts. Staff also met with Skokie, Morton Grove, Lincolnwood, Wilmette, Niles, Evanston, Glenview, Northbrook and Northfield. Implementation is scheduled for August 2020. Change of trip times, suggested by stakeholders, have been incorporated in the schedules and the project remains cost neutral. Phase II of the Coordination Study affects the following routes: 210, 215, 225, 226, 421, 422, 423 and 424. The first internal coordination meeting was held on December 3rd and involved a cross-functional team of Pace staff from marketing, communications, external relations, service planning and scheduling, strategic and capital planning as well as paratransit. Public hearings will be held in late January 2020. Co-Chairman Kerman asked about the comments for Northbrook. Mr. Turner provided that information.

VIII. Pulse Program Update

Mr. Tomzik presented an overview of the Milwaukee Pulse. On December 16th, three more stations came online in the City of Chicago. Two more stations at Central and Harlem should be open in January, once the electrical connection is made. Mr. Tomzik gave a breakdown on the coordination of efforts with CDOT. Mr. Powell added his experience riding on Pulse.

Halsted Corridor –Pace is handling the environmental issues (Phase II). CTA took the lead for Phase I. Pace is still in the preliminary phase of the study. Mr. Powell suggested avoiding duplicative service along the corridor. Discussion of TSP along the corridor continued in general terms with Messrs. Kerman and Powell asking several questions.

IX. Year End Report

Executive Director Donahue gave the report. Pace will provide the 2019 annual report at the Pace Board meeting in February, so this is a preview.

- Pace will receive \$360M+/- over the next 6 years and is a major beneficiary of the state capital bill.
- The update to the strategic vision plan is in progress – Driving Innovation.
- A consultant will review Pace structure. The legacy system is not sustainable.
- Pace needs to raise its profile. Mr. Donahue has already introduced Pace to the viewing public at least twice on “Chicago Tonight” and he presented to the Chicago Club. Pace has aggressively promoted news stories like Pulse and the capital bill. Work has been done but we still have room for improvement.
- Internally, a newsletter called The Dispatch is distributed to employees with a suggestion box for ideas to improve employees’ environment.

Sheila Schwartz asked if Pace does team building exercises to increase morale and some other ideas toward the same end. Mr. Donahue responded.

Mr. Powell provided commentary as to the morale at the divisions. If a driver has issues at the division, it may transfer to his attitude on the road.

X. Goals for 2020

Pace is looking at a Program Management Office. An outside company will review and offer ways that we can make the office more efficient. The Black/African American Conference and Latino Conference want to make sure the DBE is as involved. We will open an office of Diversity and Inclusion and look at generational diversity.

XI. Public Comment

No public comment.

XII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.