

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ARIZONA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

Monday, October 4, 2004
Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade and Douglas
Tempe, AZ 10:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Brown called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Steve Brown, President
Rick Simonetta, Vice-President
Mike Sabatini, Secretary
Ken Driggs, Treasurer
Brad Bixler
Dave Boggs
Carlos de Leon
Doug Farnsworth, representing Ernesto Salazar
Roger Milroy
Nate Peterson
Steve Tyminski, representing Mike Hemesath
Shannon Wilhelmsen
John Anderson, Executive Director
Stuart Goodman, Goodman-Schwartz

III. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Stuart Goodman suggests and the Board agrees that AZTA should send a letter to the editor in support of Proposition 400 which extends the half-cent sales tax for transportation. The letter is to present the benefits of the program in an unbiased fashion.

Stuart reviewed the HOV legislation discussion from the retreat. The case in point involved a public transportation bus driver operating an empty bus in an HOV who was cited by DPS for a violation. This is a non-controversial issue that will allow for open dialog with legislators and present a positive image for AZTA. The downside is that it is only an urban issue while AZTA is a statewide organization.

Rural members of the Board are most interested in expanding ADOT's MoveAZ plan to include public transportation in rural areas as well as roads. ADOT Director Victor Mendez has said ADOT will fund rural transit studies through the Councils of Governments. The MoveAZ plan goes back to the legislature before the end of 2004 and provides an opportunity to discuss rural public transportation issues and the HOV case. AZTA may be able to resolve the HOV issue through policy discussions

with DPS and ADOT. That could provide an opportunity to demonstrate collaboration between AZTA and DPS.

Motion: Mike Sabatini moves that the HOV issue is a legislative initiative for AZTA in 2005.

Second: Nate Peterson

Action: Approved Unanimously

A meeting had been scheduled early last week with George Cunningham of Governor Napolitano's office. It was later cancelled when Mr. Cunningham asked to reschedule for later in the week because there were too many conflicts with AZTA Board member schedules. Stuart is working to reschedule the meeting.

LTAF is not considered to be a viable legislative initiative for 2005. There is never a good time to ask for more money but a better time will likely be after the regional connectors (Green Valley, Ajo-Gila Bend-Buckeye, etc.) are operational and demonstrated successes. The Board asks Stuart to check the legislative feelings about:

- Increasing LTAF
- Protecting the current share
- Increasing LTAF only in the rural areas

Stuart suggests that a better time would be after the November election and after the meeting with George Cunningham. The AZTA concern is that a successful Prop 400 in Maricopa County will be perceived in the legislature as addressing public transportation when it does nothing for rural Arizona.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Meeting Minutes

Motion: Dave Boggs moves to approval of the August 23, 2004 meeting minutes.

Second: Ken Driggs

Action: Approved Unanimously

The July Board Retreat minutes are deferred to the November meeting.

B. Financial Report a/o August 31, 2004

The unreconciled balances through the end of September 2004 show a checking account balance of \$80,585 and an savings account balance of \$1,003 for a total balance of \$81,588. John Anderson suggests that AZTA invest in 3 month Certificates of Deposit that are currently paying 3% interest. He would invest \$50,000 in \$10,000 increments. John will make a proposal and review with Ken Driggs.

Motion: Carlos de Leon moves approval of the financial report and authorize John Anderson and Ken Driggs to invest in CDs.

Second: Ken Driggs

Action: Approved Unanimously

V. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Training Institute

The challenge is to find someone to staff the institute. That is proving to be more difficult than finding the money. ATC is willing to partially staff for an October 2005 Institute. ADOT Director Victor Mendez has ~~directed~~ asked Sam Chavez, Interim ADOT Public Transportation Division Director, to ~~find~~ explore additional state or federal funding. Dave Boggs to follow up with Alan Wulkan,

B. 2004 Legislative Conference Update

Alan Wulkan, John Anderson, Ed Zuercher and Stuart Goodman met in August. Stuart Goodman is working to have Governor Napolitano as a speaker. The conference will be December 16, 2004 at the Phoenix Civic Plaza and will include:

- a legislative breakfast with George Cunningham
- Phoenix Mayor Gordon will speak
- a Washington Outlook (Bill Millar is invited)
- Lessons learned from Prop 400 (Ed Zuercher will moderate)
- State Legislative Outlook (Rick Simonetta will moderate)
- A keynote speaker like Paul Weyerich
- Arizona Regional Outlook (Pat McGowan will moderate)
- New Mexico Governor Richardson is invited to be the luncheon speaker
- Arizona Statewide Outlook (Ken Driggs will moderate)
- Friends of Transit Award (Gary Pierce and Clancy Jayne are suggested)
- Outstanding Public Transportation Agency Award

C. Golf Tournament

Roger Milroy reports that AZTA is a twosome short of a sellout. There is one Silver Sponsorship available and several Bronze Sponsorships. The Committee has collected \$22,200 in revenues and is projecting \$38,600 of profits.

Steel Chariots has offered to print signs for the golf tournament and provide a basic banner for AZTA. They have proposed to provide an enhanced banner in exchange for AZTA membership plus their acknowledgement on the banner. Their membership is a \$600 value.

Motion: Roger Milroy moves to accept signs and a banner with limited acknowledgement from Steel Chariots in exchange for a \$200-\$400 credit towards membership.

Second: Brad Bixler

Action: Approved Unanimously

D. Annual Conference

Carlos de Leon reports that the El Conquistador is booked when AZTA has scheduled its conference. Carlos recommends that AZTA return to Rio Rico

where ~~the it held~~ the 2000 conference was held. Rio Rico has just completed a \$5,000,000 renovation.

The conference will run from Sunday, April 10 through Thursday, April 14 although it may end on Wednesday. Sunday golf will be on your own. The opening session will be on Monday with an emphasis on the Vendor Showcase that day. Concurrent sessions will begin on Tuesday with a half-day session on Wednesday.

E. Membership and Dues

SWATA is reviewing their dues structure. John Anderson will check on their progress and findings. The Committee agrees that the dues structure should change and is targeting FY 2006 for the changes. Under consideration are the following increases:

- Sustaining Members: increase from \$5,000 to \$7,000
- Public Agencies: increase from a range of \$200-\$5,000 to a range of \$300-\$7,000
- Businesses: increase from \$600 to \$1,000
- Vendors and Exhibitors fees: decrease member's fees from \$700 to \$500. Increase non-member's fees from \$800 to \$1,500. This will encourage more vendors to become members.

John Anderson will send notices so agencies can include in their budgeting processes. The Committee will ask the Board to take action at the November meeting.

F. ADOT Update

AZTA will have quarterly meetings with ADOT Director Victor Mendez. Debra Brisk (602-712-7550) has the lead for the Transit Division Director recruitment.

VI. BUSINESS NOT OTHERWISE ON AGENDA

There was no other business discussed.

VII. NEXT MEETINGS

November 8, 2004 at the El Conquistador Hotel in Oro Valley, AZ.

El Conquistador will provide discounted room rates of \$139 for Sunday night. The Board will order lunch off the menu.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

President Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.