

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ARIZONA TRANSIT ASSOCIATION
Friday, September 28, 2007
Tempe Mission Palms, Tempe, Arizona

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Paul Miller called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. ATTENDANCE

Paul Miller, President
Nate Peterson, Secretary/Treasurer
Alan Wulkan
Ken Driggs
Jim Dickey
Ron Barnes
Rich Gaar
Marc Soronson
Eric Anderson
Nick Promponas, Chair, Education & Training
Stuart Goodman, Goodman Schwartz Public Affairs
John Anderson, Executive Director
Becky Rutledge, Administrative Assistant
Roger Milroy, Gannett Fleming
Jay Smyth-guest, Southwest Rail Corridor Coalition

III. ACTION ITEMS

There were not enough board members available for a quorum for this meeting so approval of the August 20, 2007 meeting minutes has been deferred to the next meeting, November 5, 2007.

The SWRC Grant Request proposal was circulated to the Board of Directors after the August 20th meeting for their approval. The SWRC proposal now meets AzTA's request for a mission and business plan.

Motion: Jim Dickey moved the Association grant \$5000 to SWRC as per the submitted proposal. The SWRC will report back to AzTA Board of Directors in six months regarding expenditure of these funds.

Second: Ron Barnes

Action: The Board Members at today's meeting approved this motion. John Anderson collected the remaining approvals via email after the meeting. Approved Unanimously

IV. Updates and Other Business

A. 2007 Golf Tournament

John Anderson reported the Golf Tournament presently has 85 registered golfers and 12-15 gold sponsors. The golf event is scheduled for Wednesday, October 24, 2007, at ASU Karsten Golf Course.

B. Legislative/Funding – Chair Ron Barnes

The next Legislative/Funding conference call is scheduled for Friday, October 12, 2007, at 8 a.m.

On Friday, October 26, 2007, WTS is holding a SAFETEA-LU Summit at the Airport Marriott. The information gathered at this summit will be used to put together a position paper on SAFETEA-LU. This report will be forwarded to the appropriate individuals in Washington. Alan Wulkan encouraged AzTA to take an active role in this summit.

Ron Barnes indicated the letter from Paul Miller had gone out to the AzTA membership requesting input for Legislative Issues. To date only one response was received from Laura Henry, KART.

Marc Soronson brought up the issue of whether AzTA would be willing to write a letter regarding the NPRM/FTA/New Starts program.

Action Required: Marc Soronson will work with Ron Barnes to draft a letter from AzTA regarding the NPRM/FTA/New Starts program.

Action Required: John Anderson will email the Pennsylvania letter/email to Board members to solicit comments for incorporation into the letter being drafted by Marc Soronson and Ron Barnes.

Stuart Goodman distributed a copy of the Governor's plan to deal with 2008 budget short falls as well as FY 2009. He urged caution in introducing new programs.

The Blue Ribbon Committee meets on Tuesday next week. They will elect their chairman at this meeting. Stuart Goodman will be attending this meeting. Jim Dickey stated Victor Mendez would be making a presentation to the Blue Ribbon Committee. ADOT will also have several people available to answer questions. There may be substantive subjects on the table for discussion.

Stuart Goodman reported the TIME Coalition has bids out looking for full time consultants. Goodman Schwartz Public Affairs is part of this bid process.

C. Education/Training – Chair Nick Promponas

The Education/Training committee has developed a draft survey of membership information/training needs. Comments to the survey are still being collected. The committee's goal is to get a final survey out to members as well as on the website within the next month or two.

D. Communications/PR/Advocacy – Chair Terry Gruver

The Communications/PR/Advocacy committee did a fantastic job getting the Rail Symposium program and sponsor materials printed. Terry Gruver was responsible for organizing all the promotional materials with the new AzTA logo and a first-rate, professional appearance.

Jason Miller from Arizona Bus Sales helped AzTA purchase a new laptop and projector for our events. He trained Becky Rutledge on using them for Power Point presentations. Terry Gruver put together the beautiful sponsor thank you Power Point that was used throughout the Rail Symposium today.

E. Organizational Infrastructure – Chair Nate Peterson

John Anderson thanked Alan Wulkan, Infraconsult, for sponsoring the reception and dinner at House of Tricks last night. Eighteen people, including all out-of-town speakers and many board members, enjoyed the evening.

Paul Miller suggested AzTA send thank you letters and special “cookie packages” to the out-of-town speakers.

Action Required: Becky Rutledge will provide Ashley Hardaway, Arizona Bus Sales, with names and addresses of out-of-town speakers to send the “cookie packages”. Thank you letters from President Paul Miller to the speakers will also be sent out.

John Anderson stated the Rail Symposium budget expense will be around \$20,000 with revenues around \$35,000.

F. ADOT Updates

The Governor's Transportation Stakeholders meetings will be held over several days next week. Jim Dickey and MAG will be involved in this process.

In mid-October, there will be a meeting with the Director's Office on the Rural Transit Needs Study. It is anticipated the Rural Transit Needs Study will be released after that meeting.

MAG held its third stakeholders' meeting Wednesday, September 12, 2007, on the west side. John Anderson and Becky Rutledge attended this meeting and participated in the inter-active session. The final MAG stakeholders' meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 30, 2007, at the Phoenix Convention Center. The final meeting will be an open house/final report format.

V. NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 5, 2007, at 10:00 a.m. at METRO offices, 101 North First Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

President Paul Miller adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.