

Victoria Regional Transit Commission
Minutes of the Meeting
Held at BC Transit
520 Gorge Road East
Thursday, March 22, 2012
1:30 pm

PRESENT: Councillor Susan Brice, Chair
Mayor Dean Fortin
Mayor Frank Leonard
Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Mayor Larry Cross
Councillor Marianne Alto

BC TRANSIT STAFF: Erinn Pinkerton, Director of Corporate & Strategic Planning
Manuel Achadinha, President & CEO
Mike Davis, VP & COO
Michael Kohl, VP & CFO
Stephen Anderson, Manager, Security
Linda Moss, *Recorder*

IN CAMERA SESSION HELD FROM 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

MOVED BY MAYOR FORTIN AND COUNCILLOR ALTO that the appointments were approved as recommended. Councillor Marianne Alto volunteered to serve as the Commission liaison to the ATAC committee.

CARRIED

The 2012/13 ATAC Committee membership is:

- Marnie Essery – Chair
- Pat Danforth
- Chris Marks
- David Douglas
- John Trevor Matthews
- Susan Gallagher
- Jan Robertson
- Virve Hiltunen
- Margaret Sylvester

OPEN SESSION

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Chair, Susan Brice.

MOVED BY MAYOR CROSS AND MAYOR DESJARDINS that the agenda be approved as circulated.

2. Approval of Minutes of November 29th, 2011.

MOVED BY MAYOR LEONARD AND MAYOR FORTIN that the minutes of the November 29, 2011 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. Approval of Minutes of March 5th, 2012

MOVED BY MAYOR LEONARD AND MAYOR FORTIN that the minutes of March 5th, 2012 be approved with the removal of Erinn Pinkerton's name from those listed in attendance.

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from Previous Meeting

None raised.

5. Chair's Remarks

Chair Brice welcomed recently appointed Commission members and everyone in attendance.

6. Delegations

Dylan Sherlock from the University of Victoria and Madeline Keller-MacLeod from Camosun College representing 30,000 pass holding students stated that they are happy with the direction the Commission is taking to date but would like to see more done in regards to Transit Priority , HOV lanes, UPass Program and use of gas tax.

Rupert Downing of the Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria put forth a request for an increase of passes and tickets provided to the Ticket Assistance Program. It was raised that with the transfer policy changes, there is a greater need for tickets than before.

7. Planning Status Report

Staff presented an update including current operational service issues, on-going planning initiatives, infrastructure planning activities as well as upcoming planning activities.

Mayor Fortin left the room at 2:32 pm and returned at 2:35 pm

Discussion included the current cancellation of the ferry service to DND base. Commission members recommended that a letter be written to the Federal Ministers of Defence and Public Works regarding this issue.

MOVED BY MAYOR FORTIN AND SECONDED BY MAYOR LEONARD that the Victoria Regional Transit Commission receive the update for information and that the Chair write the Federal Ministers of National Defence and Public Works regarding TDM and other related issues at CFB and related workplaces with a copy to the three local MPs.

CARRIED

8. 3rd Quarter Financial and Performance Report

Staff presented the 3rd Quarter Financial and Performance Report based on information up to December 31, 2011. Victoria Transit is operating within the established budget and continues to outperform comparable Canadian transit systems in both efficiency and effectiveness. Revenue for the year is up, primarily due to changes in the transfer program implemented in July, 2011. These results were also reported at March 5th meeting.

MOVED BY MAYOR LEONARD AND SECONDED BY MAYOR DESJARDINS that the 3rd Quarter Financial and Performance Report be received for information.

CARRIED

9. 2012/13 Service, Budget & Taxation Resolution

Staff presented the 2012/13 Service, Budget & Taxation Resolution report. This report recommended that:

- Taxation be maintained at the 2011/12 rate for residential property
- Business tax multiplier be reduced from 5.0 to 4.85
- Service be increased by 2,000 hours per year in handyDART and by 5,000 hours including one additional peak bus in the conventional system
- And that a budget of \$105.6 million be adopted

This report was also presented at the March 5th meeting.

MOVED BY MAYOR LEONARD AND SECONDED BY MAYOR DESJARDINS that:

- Taxation be maintained at the 2011/12 rate for residential property
- Business tax multiplier be reduced from 5.0 to 4.85
- Service be increased by 2,000 hours per year in handyDART and by 5,000 hours including one additional peak bus in the conventional system
- And that a budget of \$105.6 million be adopted

CARRIED

10. VRTC Meeting Schedule

To ensure quorum at meeting dates offered, staff will email meeting dates to Commission members and those dates with significant conflicts will be rescheduled. All meeting dates for 2012 will be posted online.

MOVED BY MAYOR LEONARD AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR ALTO that the meeting schedule be recirculated and amended as required.

CARRIED

11. Correspondence

Correspondence was received for information.

MOVED BY MAYOR LEONARD AND SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR ALTO that the Victoria Regional Transit Commission receive the correspondence as circulated.

CARRIED

MOVED BY MAYOR LEONARD AND MAYOR CROSS that the Victoria Regional Transit Commission be adjourned.

CARRIED

MEETING ADJOURNED: 3:14 pm