

**CITY OF BENSON
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MARCH 6, - 10:00 A.M.
BENSON CITY HALL
120 W. 6TH STREET, BENSON, ARIZONA**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 10:22 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

<u>Attendees</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Lupe Diaz	Benson Chamber of Commerce President
Connie Gastelum	SEAGO Regional Mobility Manager
Humberto Rivera	Douglas Transit Manager
Corinna Carbajal,	City of Bisbee Programs/Grant Administrator;
Cheri Shull	City of Benson Engineering Aide
Joyce Stevens	Senior Representative

Members not present:

Stacey Feinsilver	SEAHBS - RSS/BHT
Debbie Franklin	Disabled Representative

GUESTS:

Helen Alto
Bob Nilson, City of Benson Visitor Center
Steve Troncale, Commissioner Tombstone
Laura Parkin

CALL TO PUBLIC:

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 20, 2014

Lupe Diaz made the motion to accept the minutes as written. Connie Gastelum seconded. Corinna Carbajal abstained as she was not at the meeting. Motion passed.

PRESENTATION

Bob Nilson, City of Benson Visitor Center provided information on working with Amtrak and what benefits not only Benson would have but with our neighboring communities. It was suggested that when a traveler boards an Amtrak in California heading to Benson, we would be included in the ticket also. Benson's involved would be in meeting the train and transporting the passenger to his/her final destination. Benson is the hub of Cochise County and this would be the beginning of bringing more travelers into the state and providing transportation to other cities and locales. Discussion was held on how to provide transportation for people coming into Benson on Amtrak as they need transportation to a car rental agency and to their lodgings. So far the City has been handling on a case to case basis.

*******Cheri - matching \$\$\$ your comments**

PRESENTATION

Laura Parkin, Recreation Coordinator for the City of Benson made a request to the committee for transportation assistance during the summer break to transport children from the city pool and the library to the school for a hot lunch. Laura explained that many parents drop their children off at either location and they are there all day with food or money. The school has agreed to supply the food but the children need to be at the school. The lunches would be provided for between the hours of 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. It was agreed that this would be a pilot program. Recreation to provide ID tags for students. Corinna Carbajal made the motion to provide this pilot program. Cheri Shull seconded.

OVERVIEW OF GREYHOUND AND GREYHOUND CONNECT

Cheri Shull has been meeting with a representative from Greyhound on becoming a partner in Greyhound Connect. This is similar to Amtrak in that travelers would buy a ticket on Greyhound and part of the ticket would include transportation upon arrival in Benson. Benson will become a ticket agent Greyhound. Discussion was held on the best possible place for a place stop and there was a consensus of the committee that moving the stop to Denny's would be ideal. Benson already has a bus stop there. Passengers waiting for the bus or arriving on the bus would have access to a restaurant and two motels should they be staying in Benson.

*******Cheri - matching \$\$\$ your comments**

OVERVIEW GRANT FOR 5311 FISCAL YEAR 2014

*******Cheri - your comments please**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion was held on action on New Mission Statement, current budget year goals and next year's goals. After much discussion the Mission Statement was presented as: To build capacity with our transit systems and partners to enhance southeastern Arizona mobility. Lupe Diaz made a motion to accept this statement. Joyce Stevens seconded. Motion passed to accept new mission statement.

Discussion was held on short and long term goals.

Short term goals would include:

- A. Transportation to school for lunch during summer break from the library and the pool.
- B. Greyhound Ticket Agent
- C. Greyhound Connect

Long term goals would include:

- A. Amtrak connect

B. Rosemont route

C. 5 Year Plan

D. Regional connection

Lupe Diaz moved accept short and long term goals with Corinna Carbajal seconding the motion. Motion passed.

NEXT MEETING

With Benson, Bisbee, Douglas all preparing grants that are due in a few weeks, a date was not chosen for the next meeting. April 3rd was mentioned as a possibility. Participants will be notified when a date has been solidified.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.