

Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2019

Milford Transit District

Attendance:

Anthony Piselli Sr Chairman  
Michael Lebov, Secretary/Treasurer  
Edward Beatty – Advisory Board  
Dr. Frank Fortunati, Jr – Advisory Board  
Nija Phelps – Advisory Board

Henry Jadach – Staff

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Piselli at 7:45 pm

1. Operating Report

Mr. Jadach previously distributed operating reports on all services. It was noted by Mr. Fortunato that the month of October Fixed Route expenses seemed to be abnormally high. Mr. Jadach explained that it was a five week pay period month and that a lump sum health insurance payment was also made in that month which brought expenses to a higher rate than usual.

Mr. Jadach also commented that because of the continued underfunding that services in the Fixed Route and the ADA van services had to be reduced and kept as low as possible to try and avoid any deficits this fiscal year. Mr. Piselli asked what the next state budget looked like and Mr. Jadach responded that it was looking like there would be no increase but that he was lobbying the DOT to fund especially the ADA services at a more reasonable level next year.

## 2. Rail Station Report

Mr. Jadach reported that the renewals for April were in process and that the waiting list for permits was reduced significantly. Mr. Lebov asked why that was the case. Mr. Jadach responded that with the opening of the West Haven station and the addition of 300 or so additional spaces at Stratford station and the opening of the City lot that the District administers with 125 spaces the opportunity for individuals to get off the wait list and park in Milford and elsewhere has increased dramatically.

## 3. Discussion to Renew DEBO Lease at the Westbound Station

A discussion was held regarding the Lease that the District has DEBO Inc for use of the Westbound Station for a coffee shop. Mr. Fortunati remarked that since the development of the former city parcel on River St. is coming to fruition it may be better to wait to renegotiate the lease we have at the Westbound Station. Mr. Piselli and Mr. Lebov agreed. It was recommended that we remain on a month to month relationship with the current tenant and see what the new development brings to the area.

## 4. Discussion to Join the Independent Transit Providers Alliance

Mr. Jadach explained that the transit districts that are not Connecticut Transit felt the need to form an alliance for the purposes of education of the general public and the state legislature that there is a system of independent transit agencies operating in the State as well as the Connecticut Transit system and that this combination of services work together to promote public transit and educate the benefits of having this system in place. A draft proposal was discussed with a budget for materials to be produced and social media to be enhanced to promote this educational effort. It was the consensus that when a more formal proposal was available that outlined the costs to the District to join such an effort was presented that the District would again take up the subject and have a more comprehensive discussion.

## 5. MTD/STATE DOT Transit Operating Document

A discussion was held regarding the fiscal's Transit Operating Document that was recently approved.

A 2.5% increase was given to the Fixed Route and the ADA services. Mr. Jadach related that he anticipated, after discussions with DOT officials, that the increase would be substantially greater especially in the ADA budget. Mr. Piselli suggested that the effort continue to get a more equitable budget in this and other areas. Mr. Lebov agreed and requested that the board be kept advised of further efforts in this regard.

## 5. Projected Capital Projects

Mr. Jadach presented the list of anticipated capital projects for the upcoming year.

They included:

Purchase and Construction of Two Bus Shelters in Downtown Milford

\$132,000

Preventative Maintenance Funds

\$275,000

Facility State of Good Repair Projects

\$285,000

There being no further business a motion was made seconded and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted – Henry Jadach - Staff