

RHODE ISLAND PUBLIC TRANSIT AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cisco WebEx Video Conference
Minutes of Wednesday, August 19, 2020
1:30 p.m.

Board Members

Present: Normand Benoit, Board Chair; Joshua Brumberger, Board Vice Chair; Robert Kells; and Peter Alviti.

Absent: Michelle Wilcox, Board Treasurer; Maureen Martin, Board Secretary; and Jose Rosario.

Also Present: Scott Avedisian, Chief Executive Officer; Christopher Fragomeni, Board Counsel; Elizabeth Silvestre, Executive Assistant; members of RIPTA's staff; and members of the public.

Call to order: Mr. Benoit called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., indicating that a quorum was present.

Agenda Item 1: **To Consider for Approval the Draft Public Session Meeting Minutes of July 16, 2020.**

Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to approve the draft public session meeting minutes of July 16, 2020. Mr. Kells seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Alviti, and Mr. Benoit.

Agenda Item 2: **Public Comment.**

1. Randall Rose: Concerns about the Multi-hub, transfers, and Code of Conduct.
2. Amy Glidden: Concerns about Multi-hub, transparency, and bond language.
3. Patricia Raub: Concerns about Multi-hub, and location.
4. Natalia Friedlander: Concerned with loss of central location at Kennedy Plaza.
5. Chris Sarli: Concerns about Multi-hub routes, confusion, and impact on businesses.
6. Susan Marcus: Concerns about Multi-hub in Providence only, and service availability.
7. Mark Schwabacher: Concerns about Multi-hub and transfers.
8. Sharon Steele: Concerns with Multi-hub: air pollution, transparency, and traffic on Dyer.
9. David Mann: Concerns with Multi-hub: transfers, travel time, ridership loss.
10. Barry Schiller: Concerns about Multi-hub, location, safety, and responsibility to riders.
11. Liza Burkin: Concerns with Multi-hub: confusion, social injustice, and lack of public input.
12. Olin Thompson: Concerns about location, ridership loss, congestion, and transparency.
13. John Flaherty: Concerns with Multi-hub: location, and lack of public process.
14. Scott Wolf: Supports a multi-hub plan without harm to riders, and includes amenities.
15. Jane Arnold: Concerns with Multi-hub, lack of pedestrian/bike access at Kennedy Plaza.
16. Chris Josephson: Concerns with multi-hub, shelters, project goals, and train station.
17. Susan Feeley: Concerns with multi-hub, and convenience.
18. Margery Winter: Shares concerns voiced by others.
19. Ted Leblond: Concerned, and opposes the multi-hub.

Agenda Item 3: **CEO Report.**

Mr. Avedisian provides updates on a federal grant, electric buses, and monthly financials.

Agenda Item 4: Request for Approval of Chafee Building Rehabilitation, RFP: 20-19 to E.W Burman.

John Chadwick, Director of Inventory Control, and Acting Director of Procurement of RIPTA, presents a request for the approval of RFP 20-19 to E.W. Burman.

Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to approve the request. Mr. Alviti seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Kells, and Mr. Benoit.

Agenda Item 5: Request for Approval of Conduent Transportation Change Order for ATMS Upgrade.

Gary Jarvis, Chief Technology Officer of RIPTA, presents a request for the approval of a Conduent Transportation Change Order for the ATMS Upgrade.

Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to approve the request. Mr. Kells seconds, and the motion passes with a favorable votes by Mr. Benoit.

Mr. Alviti votes against the request.

Agenda Item 6: Code of Conduct Update.

Steven Colantuono, Chief Legal Counsel of RIPTA, presents an update to the draft Code of Conduct.

Agenda Item 7: Work Session on Multi-hub System.

Nicole Verdi, Deputy Chief of Staff for the Governor, DOT Director Peter Alviti, CEO Scott Avedisian, and RIPTA Board Chairman Normand Benoit provide comments on the Multi-Hub plan.

Agenda Item 8: Executive Session to consider, discuss and act upon such matters as may be closed to the public pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) regarding litigation and collective bargaining.*

Upon motion by Mr. Brumberger, which was seconded by Mr. Alviti, the following vote was adopted and passed with favorable votes by Mr. Kells, and Mr. Benoit.

Voted: To enter into Executive Session pursuant to Rhode Island General Laws section §42-46-5(a)(2) to discuss litigation and collective bargaining.

The Board, staff, and counsel entered into executive session at 03:25 p.m.

The Board, staff, and counsel entered public session at 04:10 p.m.

Attorney Fragomeni reports out that pursuant to R.I. Gen. laws § 42-46-4(b), the Board unanimously voted to keep all votes taken in Executive Session sealed so as to not jeopardize any strategy or negotiation.

Mr. Brumberger makes a motion to seal the minutes of the executive session. Mr. Alviti seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Kells, and Mr. Benoit.

Agenda Item 9: Adjournment 12:51 p.m.

Mr. Alviti moves to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Brumberger seconds, and the motion passes with favorable votes by Mr. Kells, and Mr. Benoit.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Martin, Secretary