



Transportation Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

7/24/18

8:30 – 10:00 AM

Attendees: Karyn Pelon, Sue Sefton, Rich Jones, Bob McKown, Wende Randall, Sherrie Gillespie, Darlene Bentz, Michael Bulthuis, Dave Bulkowski, Debbie Coleman,, Jane Konyndyk, Tamia McGlothlin, John Mitchell

I. Citizen's Agenda

- a. The Rapid- The Wave is set to launch next month. Andrew Johnson is the new CEO of The Rapid. The Laker line has been postponed until spring of 2019. Dave asked if they received anymore state funding. Michael did not have an exact answer and will get back to him.
- b. Wheels to Work- Launched in June 2016, Hope Network and The Rapid in conjunction with area organizations are parenting to provide an affordable cost share riding service. The cost is shared between employee and employers. The cost is taken out of their payroll. It is HUB-based system that has a client walk no more than .5 mile. If there is not a HUB within that distance, it will be a door-to-door service. Wheels to Work is in six cities within the GR area. They are looking to expand into all of region 4B. All correspondence and scheduling is done through Hope Network. Ridewheelstowork.com is the URL. On the site there is a page to apply for jobs by looking at participating employers. Employees complete an application form when the employer decides to engage with Wheels to Work. The forms will be sent to Hope Network and then they will decide if they are within an acceptable area. The current cost is eight dollars per trip. Employers pay five and the employee pays three. Costs vary for other areas in West Michigan. For areas outside of the six cities, it is an hourly based system. They are currently working on rebranding to have the Wheels to Work logo on the vehicle. It is possible to add bike racks to the buses and WIFI. W2W can be used as a benefit program for good attendance or a certain amount of years employed. This program has seen an increase in retaining employees and not experience turnover, which saves money. The long-term goal of W2W is to be a mobility solution. Funding through United Way (65,000) and Meijer (30,000). First operational year- 65,893 total rides, 443 indivs served, 9,726 service hours, 207,207 service miles, 6.77 rides per service hour. The second anniversary was June 12, 2018. Disability data is self-disclosed and so are veterans so collecting accurate data is hard to acquire. 52% first shift, 30% second. 25% are ESL riders. Bob asked if W2W is a long-term solution. It was answered that it is given the future thinking on transportation ie shared ride. Dave also stated that mobility on demand is the future. Ford is changing their name from Ford Motor Company to Ford Mobility.
 - i. How can ENTFF assist W2W?
 1. They need more drivers.
 2. Grant dollars are needed for seed money.



3. ACTION ITEM- get job fair advert out

II. Strategic Planning

- a. Municipal Survey results from Calvin College should be out next month. Also. Wende wants to blend Transportation to other positive outcomes like employment; what are others? Kyle will send out the two reports that might generate some ideas. Next month participants will go over their findings.

III. Michigan Mobility Challenge

- a. 8-million-dollar chunk of money that the Governor got in to help disabled populations. It links senior populations with tech companies.

IV. Ridelink

- V. Updates- Clean up after ourselves

