Atlanta-region Transit Link Authority

Virtual Meeting

Board Meeting
Minutes

June 4, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Felicia Franklin Warner, Vice Chair
Steve Dickerson
Andy Macke
Russell McMurry
Howard Mosby
Charlotte Nash
Paul Radford
Teddy Russell
Mark Toro
Todd Ver Steeg
Chuck Warbington
Tom Weyandt

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Charlie Sutlive, Chair
Keisha Lance Bottoms
Earl Ehrhart
Michael Thurmond

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:34 a.m. Vice Chair Warner made a statement regarding the current social unrest in the country.

Chris Tomlinson provided housekeeping rules for the virtual meeting and recommended to have a roll call for the benefit of the public. Jamie Harris, Board Secretary, then did the roll call. A quorum was confirmed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Vice Chair Warner called for a motion to approve the minutes for the Board meeting held on May 27, 2020. Mr. Warbington made the motion, and Mr. Weyandt seconded. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.
APPROVAL OF THE BOARD AGENDA

Vice Chair Warner called for a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Macke made the motion, and Ms. Nash seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

One public comment was received from Dr. Ed Williams. Chris Tomlinson read the comment. The email is attached to these minutes.

2020 ARTP ANNUAL UPDATE/CALL FOR PROJECTS TIMELINE

Aileen Daney provided the Board an overview of the ARTP project evaluation processes that have been introduced and utilized thus far, explained how the Project Performance Framework synthesizes those discreet analyses together, and provided a status update on where we are in the Framework process.

2020 ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDIT UPDATE

Scott Haggard introduced Andrew Zalewski with Foursquare ITP and Naomi Stein with EBP, who provided the Board with an update related to their efforts with the 2020 ATL Annual Report and Audit.

PROJECT PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK UPDATE

Aileen Daney provided the Board an overview of the ARTP 2019 and 2020 evaluation processes based on the criteria and weights on the four-quadrant matrix model and how proposed projects align with governing principles. Aileen also provided an overview and status update on the project performance framework.

ATL ROADMAP PROJECT UPDATE

Adelee Le Grand provided the Board with an update on the ATL roadmap project highlighting the revised strategic goals from the 2019 draft. She also provided a summary of the roadmap validation, as well as next steps.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Chris Tomlinson provided updates on the following:
- Welcomed Aileen Daney to the team
- Preparations for the resumption of the legislative Session
- Acknowledged staff’s positive response regarding the current social unrest around us.

NEW BUSINESS

None.
ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Warner called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Warbington made the motion, and Mr. Macke seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

APPROVED:

[Signature]
Felicia Franklin Warner, Vice Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
Merryl Mandus, Chief Legal Officer

ATTEST:

[Signature]
Jamie Harris, Board Secretary

DATE MINUTES APPROVED: July 9, 2020
Atlanta-Region Transit Link Authority Board  
245 Peachtree Center Avenue, NE  
Suite 2300 Marquis Tower One  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-1223

Public Comment ATL Link Regular Board Meeting June 4, 2020

Re: MARTA broke the link when it reduced bus and rail services

From: Dr. Ed Williams

[Public Comment Begin]

Good Morning Board:

My name is Ed Williams, I am the chair of the group Concerned Citizens for Effective Government. Today citizens are frustrated because their government does not seem to listen or act in their interests. It does matter that citizens’ voices are heard and that actions are taken to correct their issues. What happens when a local jurisdiction breaks the transit link? Has the ATL board considered how MARTA and other local transit authorities impact each other when they decide to act without adequate public notice?

I am concerned as a taxpayer about the services and value that citizens are receiving from MARTA. MARTA violated the law when it reduced bus and rail services without a vote by the Board of Directors and adequate public notice and comment.

MARTA CEO Jeffrey Parker and the Board of Directors knowingly and willingly reduced bus and rail services on April 20, 2020 without a vote of the MARTA board of directors outside of an open meeting. MARTA is a public authority and it provides an essential governmental function for public purpose.

Marta’s elimination of 70 out of 110 routes within 3 counties without publicly discussing other social distancing options that protect riders from losing their jobs, buying groceries, going to dialysis or attending to other medical needs is insensitive when Marta top brass and all 2000 bus drivers
still earn a paycheck from the 1 penny sales tax. It should be noted that Gwinnett and Cobb counties who have independent bus services and they have not eliminated from their bus services. Marta cut 3 out of the 7 bus routes from Clayton County. We still do not know when the service will be resumed.

What is so egregious about MARTA actions is that it never held any public hearing, did not provide any time for public input or comment, and the MARTA board did not vote on the decision which is required by the MARTA Act.

The [MARTA Act](#) requires that all changes in fare and services be approved by the Board of Directors.

There is no record of any official action being taken regarding the reduction of rail and bus service in the minutes during any MARTA board meetings.

There was no agenda item to reduce bus or rail service related to the coronavirus emergency for either the MARTA Board of Directors regular board meeting on March 12, 2020, a special called meeting on March 19, 2020, or the April 9, 2020,

There are no emergency provisions in the MARTA Act for the CEO or General Manager of MARTA to reduce rail and bus during an emergency without a vote of Board of Directors. There was no emergency declared or certified by the MARTA Board of Directors. There is no record of the local jurisdictions in their emergency coronavirus orders authorizing or declaring that MARTA transit service be reduced or modified. There is no record of MARTA suspension of bus and rail service during the protests marches.

So, how does the ATL link plan to address a broken link?

Thank You.

[Public Comment End]
Ed Williams. Ed.D. Chair

**Concerned Citizens For Effective Government**

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