

Stark Area Regional Transit Authority Board Of Trustees Meeting/Work Session

November 8, 2006 @ 6:00 PM
SARTA – Board Room, 1st Floor

I. Call To Order

Charles DeGraff, Board President, convened the meeting/work session at 6:00 PM.

II. Attendance (Quorum was present)

Charles DeGraff, President; Nancy Johnson, Vice-President; Phyllis Beyers; Randy Bond; William Rudner; Gerald Bixler; Chet Warren.

Excused

Amanda Fletcher

Absent

Fred Moore

Staff

Jack Thompson-Manager, Customer Service; Teresa Thompson-Administrator, Operations; Kelly Zachary-Administrator, HR Administrator; Jerry Shilling-Director, Operations; Glenna Caruso-Manager, Project; Mark Finnicum-Director, Maintenance; Richard Kyle-Marketing & Customer Service Specialist; Tammy Marie Chavers-Executive Assistant

Legal Counsel

Atty. Gust Callas, Black McCuskey

Other

Todd Mastroianni, Gerard Mastroianni, & James Oesch-Alliance Ventures; Ronald Simmons, Onyx Inc.

III. Approval of Minutes (October 25, 2006)

Mr. DeGraff decided that the Board would review the minutes and move for approval the next meeting.

IV. Communications From Executive Director/CEO

Ridership

SARTA's ridership continues to increase over last year's numbers. At the last board meeting, some members of the board inquired on the dramatic decrease in ridership for the agency. The board was informed that this sudden ridership change coincided with the installation of the new fare boxes. We invited GFI Incorporated to assist SARTA staff with

determining why our ridership counts were so low since installing the fare boxes.

We have provided the board with additional information showing that agency ridership remains strong. According to GFI Inc., during installation and troubleshooting stage of the project implementation, some of the parameters for retrieving ridership data were not set appropriately. Consequently, ridership data for seniors, students and all discounted passes do not transfer to the desktop upon probing the fare box. GFI Inc. has assured SARTA that this issue has been resolved and that our ridership numbers will reflect activities on our routes.

Mr. Odimgbe informed the board that construction of Phase I of the Wal-Mart project is complete. SARTA staff is still working with Wal-Mart for easement agreements to enable the agency to complete Phase II of the project with a continuous sidewalk up to the traffic signal. Mr. Shilling has sent some information to Wal-Mart representatives regarding this issue and notified them that SARTA will not be liable for any damages to their landscaping done by Wal-Mart patrons attempting to use SARTA services.

V. Public Speaks

Todd Masters, Alliance Ventures expressed his concern about his bid for the Alliance Project. He described with time delayed, he cannot guarantee the original prices from the bid due to fluctuating prices of steel. He also stated that if and when re-bidding is done, bidding would not be fair because all contractors has access to each other's previous prices. He also explained that he would like to precede providing SARTA with a low responsible, quality service. He ensures that his company provides service and does not threaten to sue.

VI. Legal Counsel

Mr. DeGraff requested legal counsel. Mr. Bond moved for counsel. Mr. Warren seconded; roll call was performed; each member answered yes. Mr. DeGraff asked that everyone exit the Board Room with the exception of Board Members and Atty. Callas.

VII. Resolutions

Mr. DeGraff read the following resolution into record:

A Resolution Authorizing The Executive Director/CEO To Rescind Resolution No. 33 And To Advertise On An

Emergency Basis For the Construction Of The Alliance
Transit Center

Mr. Warren moved for the adoption of this resolution. Mr. Rudner seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Warren moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bond seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

The Board Meeting scheduled for November 22, 2006 was combined with the November 8, 2006 Work Session, therefore canceling the next meeting. We will meet again on December 13, 2006 @ 6:00 PM for a Board Work Session/Meeting.