

**METRO RTA  
PLANNING / MARKETING / RAIL  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
416 KENMORE BOULEVARD BOARD ROOM  
VIRTUAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021  
10:30 A.M.**

**ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER**

Attendees: Donald Christian, Renee Greene, Gary Spring, Robert DeJournett, David Prentice, Vincent Rubino, Nick Fernandez, Molly Becker, Emily Baarson, Jay Hunter, Shawn Metcalf, Jarrod Hampshire, DeHavilland McCall, Bambi Miller, Angela Neeley

Guests Present: Dr. Daniel Van Epps, Ron Brubaker

Mr. Donald Christian called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

**ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL MEETING**

Motion to approve minutes by Ms. Renee Greene. Second by Mr. Vincent Rubino.

**ITEM 3: SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Planning Report | Valerie Shea**

Ms. Emily Baarson gave the Planning Report on behalf of Ms. Shea.

- Reviewed KPIs and Performance Report
- To date, METRO has recorded 893 trips to COVID-19 vaccination appointments on all services.
- Summer 2021 Schedules go into effect Sunday, June 6. The schedule change reflects minor time adjustments and trip times as a result of customer comments and operator feedback. The DASH will be suspended in June as the University of Akron will not be on campus full-time. DASH service is expected to resume in the fall.
- The consulting team is in the process of data analysis, looking at fixed-route and demand response service for the Comprehensive Operational Analysis and Transit Development Plan. Ms. Baarson said the goal is to provide a baseline report in June to the Board. A network design workshop is planned for July. The Transit Oriented Development (TOD) project is also in the data gathering phase, with a goal to present market information and a detailed report by the end of June. The team also went on a tour for potential TOD sites and took an in-depth look at real estate investment.

- Ms. Baarson discussed the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure’s process to advance surface transportation authorization legislation and METRO’s legislative efforts.

Mr. Gary Spring asked what METRO’s plan is moving forward after state COVID-19 health orders are lifted on June 2. Ms. Becker said METRO is finalizing the plan and continues to follow the TSA’s mask mandate on buses and properties.

### **Marketing Report | Molly Becker**

- Reviewed KPIs
- METRO, in partnership with Summit County Public Health, is hosting a pop-up COVID-19 vaccine clinic on Friday, May 21 from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. METRO is offering a 7-Day pass for those who get vaccinated.
- METRO is sponsoring a Care-A-Van on Saturday, May 29 that will go to three different neighborhoods within the Summit Lake area to administer the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Annual Report is being mailed and distributed digitally.
- Countryside Conservancy Farmers’ Markets start in June. METRO has, once again, partnered with Countryside to offer free rides to and from farmers’ markets with digital/physical proof of the event flier. This partnership originated in 2019.
- METRO is also offering free rides with proof of a Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad ticket.
- Ms. Becker congratulated Public Relations Manager Claire Merrick for her recent appointment as the OPTA Marketing Chair.

Ms. Becker discussed her role in the incident at the RKP Transit Center on Tuesday, May 18.

### **Rail Report | Valerie Shea**

No report

**ITEM 4: RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

**ITEM 5: OTHER BUSINESS**

**ITEM 6: CALL FOR ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 10:46 a.m.