

City of Hillsdale
97 N. Broad St., Hillsdale, MI 49242

Local Advisory Council for Dial-A-Ride
Minutes

Conference Room
City Hall

January 30, 2023

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Jason Blake at 1:35 p.m.

Board members present: Edward Swanson
 Shirley Lopez
 Kara Lorenz-Goings
 Barabara Hamdan

Board Members Absent: Steven Hammett, Dorcas Stegelmann

Also present were Jason Blake- Director of Public Services, Katy Price- City Clerk.

Acceptance of resignations: Dorcus Stegelmann

Stegelmann submitted her resignation via email due to health concerns.

Motioned by Lopez to accept Stegelmann's resignation, seconded by Hamdan. Voice vote, all in favor, motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: January 12, 2022 minutes were presented to the committee,

Motion by Swanson to approve minutes as presented, Lopez seconded. Voice vote, all in favor, motion approved.

Review Accessibility Plan: Blake reviewed the plan with the committee. Vehicles include access for handicap riders which include but not limited to wheelchair/walker lifts. LAC meets annually. Blake mentioned that the City has four (4) buses only operated three (3) buses at a time but the City has one (1) backup bus. Discussion ensued on increases in price for buses along with ridership. City adopted the age to be 60 years

for seniors and not standard 65. Blake reviewed the service areas on a map. He went over Walmart trips and then potential Meijer trips in the future when the store is built. The committee look over hours of operation; Monday- Friday, 7:15a.m. – 4:15 p.m. excluding 11:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Discussion on staggered lunches was presented.

Swanson motioned to approve the accessibility plan with the change in the LAC Council composition of age for Lorenz-Goings as she is not 65 or older. Hamdan seconded. Voice vote, all in favor, motioned passed.

Operating Budget: Jason Blake reviewed the operating budget. There was a brief discussion about general fund transfers, labor costs and ridership increases.

Motion by Swanson to approve the budget as presented, seconded by Hamden. Voice Vote all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: Discussion on bus stops and benches availability at local grocery stores. Blake mentioned possible advertisement opportunity for businesses to help with benches and buses in the future. He mentioned he would reach out to stores like Market House, Kroger and Walmart to see if they could add benches for DART riders.

Discussion ensued on the possibility of doing a special run for residents for a special occasion or event. Mr. Blake stated he would have to open the time frame up 24 hours in advance and advertise it for the whole service area, but could be a prospective possibility in the future. The Committee mentioned with the potential advertising funds it may help to fund this project for riders.

Motion by Swanson to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Hamdan. Voice vote, all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.



Edward Swanson- LAC Chairperson

