

CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT
AUTHORITY

SPECIAL CALLED
BOARD MEETING

OF

February 22, 2008

11:30 A.M.

Chairman Liakakis: I would like to call the meeting to the Chatham Area Transit Authority to order and ask for the secretary to do make the roll call please

Ms. Krahling – Mr. Liakakis

Chairman Liakakis – here

Ms. Krahling – Dr. Thomas

Dr Thomas - here

Ms. Krahling - Ms. Stone

Ms. Stone - Present

Ms. Krahling – Mr. Holmes

Mr. Holmes – here

Ms. Krahling – Mr. Shay

Mr. Shay – Here

Ms. Krahling – Mr. Farrell

Mr. Farrell - Here

Ms. Krahling – Mr. Odell

Mr. Odell - Here

Ms. Krahling – Mr. Gellatly

Mr. Gellatly – Present

Ms. Krahling – Mr. Kicklighter

Mr. Kicklighter – Here

Ms. Krahling – Ms. Bell is out today

Ms. Krahling – Mr. Dawson

Mr. Dawson – Here

Ms. Krahling – Mr. Oakley

Mr. Oakley – here

Also present at the meeting was Joe M. Rivers, M. Tyus Butler and Gennetta M. Krahling

Chairman Liakakis – okay, next item, new business discussion on CAT management contract. Joe.

Mr. Rivers – Mr. Chairman, recently there has been an interest of people inquiring about public private partnership. And I have gotten several calls and requesting of information. We do not have as a part of our proposed RFP to include Public Private Partnership so I did not want to disseminate any information or give anybody any head start on anything so I thought I would bring it back to the board to let the board say if they would want to look in that direction and weather they wanted to get enough due diligence on it that at the time you decide weather you going to use a management company weather you are going to use a GM or weather you are wanting to go into the direction of all Public Private Partnership. I wanted to throw that our there so we could be clear

Mr. Odell – I have no

Mr. Chairman – Patrick

Mr. Shay – go ahead Harris

Mr. Odell – I have no problems and I think we look at all three and evaluate all three proposals. If we did not do that then I think the classification should include all three weather or not we look at individual, management contract, public, private. I think when we are at this crossroad; we take that opportunity to ensure that we effectively evaluate all the various options. And that is an option

Mr. Chairman - Patrick

Mr. Shay – I concur with Commissioner Odell. I think we are at a crossroads in a lot of ways right now and we should explore all the full range of options, but less anybody be confused by this we are not talking about is the out and out privatization of CAT or the divesting of our responsibility as the CAT board to set

public policy as to how the transit system is going to be operated. What we would like to at least consider is the three options that have been laid forward, hiring a general manager to work directly for us weather we should go back to the way we did before where we contract for an outside manager or potentially talk with private companies which are not only willing to manage system and also invest outside capital expertise so that we could expand the services that are currently being provided.

Mr. Chairman – I think that’s very important to look at all there and especially if the Private Public coming together that we could save money and have the additional funding that we really need because as we know the Federal Government has reduced there amount of money coming to the transit system and we have got well over as close as seventeen thousand people in Chatham County. Almost ten years ago when we had the two thousand census and you heard me say that before, over sixteen thousand people that showed in the census that do not have transportation in Chatham County and it has been brought up to a number of us that people can not get to jobs at Tybee and some of the business people are concerned about that people that need employees over on the Westside and several areas for short time and then there employees are unable to continue to get transportation to there jobs so we have got people on the unemployment rolls that it is a burden upon them because they do not have jobs and we need additional funding so that we can expand our bus service which is very important and especially to the people in our community. These people who do not have the ability to get back and forth to the doctor for medical treatment, not being to shop for food in there place, not being able to go to there jobs. We have a responsibility as the Chatham County Commission to make sure that we got public, that we got transportation for those people in our community. Bill

Mr. Oakley –Mr. Chairman, Is this a matter that requires a motion?

Mr. Chairman – second? Do we have a second?

Mr. Oakley – I was just asking a question, as to

Mr. Chairman – Oh no, we do not have a motion right now.

Mr. Oakley – I was just asking if this is a matter that requires a motion and if so then I would move that we engage in the unlimited possibilities thinking by considering the three options that have been described

Mr. Chairman – okay, do we have a second

Ms. Stone – second

Mr. Chairman – We have motion on the floor and a second to go into the three possibilities. Everybody in favor signify by the raising of your hands. Motion passes

Mr. Rivers – Mr. Chairman

Mr. Farrell – While we got a second. Can we get an update on our Saint Patrick's Day schedule? Has anything been since our last meeting to address our tremendous need to help move riders around Chatham County

Mr. Rivers – That will be forthcoming to you as to the adjustments that we have made, the City of Savannah has also made some adjustments to use the two Liberty Street Shuttles. I know that we will probably, use some buses that are offline, to infuse into the 14 and stuff like that. But all of the details I do not have in place and we are working on that. Everyday is an urgency around here so. You got this urgent and it is being worked on. Mr. Chairman, if I may.... We have something that is very important that is coming up. Urbitran who did the Transportation Development Plan, each one of you have one of these in your package hold onto it, take a look at it and get focused on it. We have several workshops that's coming up. We have a schedule. One scheduled in particular for the Commission that was at six o'clock, if that time is not best suited for anybody then there is also three other dates that we have. Feb. 26th at our maintenance office at 3 pm and Feb. 26th 6pm here in the commission chambers and Feb 27th at the MPC. I hope that each one of you have an opportunity to come to either one of those. Get your questions together, there is a lot of good information here and there are a lot of good recommendations here. I do not know how willingly we can carry out a lot of them but here at the same time there are a lot of things is not cost prohibited that we are already looking at. Some things are not gonna be

Mr. Chairman – Joe, what are those dates again?

Mr. Rivers – I think that we gave everybody, I gave it to you and I just wanted to reiterate that Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman –okay, Joe

Mr. Rivers – yes sir

Mr. Chairman – The chairman of the Saint Patrick's day parade has met with the police department and you know to make sure that all those kind of things come into play and one of the comments that has been brought up is that of the those people that come out of the bars and it has been mentioned before off of bay street.

They do not want to have to you know just cause people to be arrested, for drinking and driving so this is very important issue to see about transportation. It is only fair to our citizens, so to come to the next meeting is before the Saint Patrick's Day on the 14th. Make sure that bring that information so that we can see and analyze because we want to be fair to the people that come into our area. Plus our own citizens, to have the safety of them because they should not be driving and that's very important to us.

Mr. Rivers – We will give you an update on the adjustments that we have made even before the next meeting so then we will want to communicate back even light I know since you are concerned about that and I know that Pat is concerned with it and everybody else is concerned with it and at the next meeting that we sit down and get sort of get some sort of formulization then we will invite you and let you know that we are having that prior to the next meeting

Mr. Chairman – okay

Mr. Odell – Have you checked with Ty about the Federal Regulations that prohibits us to be competitive with for profit organizations, we violate those and potentially our funding could be jeopardized. So any proposals modifications will have a review by our attorney as to weather or not it puts us in or out of compliance with the out major funding sources

Mr. Rivers – As we are going forth now I see that and we will do that and see that and make sure that we are covered. The two Savannah Liberty shuttles are probably going to be on Bay Street that night. We have to coordinate everything through them because there is traffic control and places that they will not allow the buses to pick up. Everything has to be well coordinated and it is being done.

Mr. Odell – Joe I'm not saying it doesn't, what I am saying is you are going to get us a memorandum addressing the Chairman and Mr. Farrell's concern and other members concern what I want to make clear, what I am personally interested in is that if we make any modifications that those modifications are in compliance with the Federal Regulations

And that is all I am asking. And I do not expect you to answer today but what I do is when we have something we will know that is reviewed and we will know that there is applicable federal regs that is all

Mr. Rivers – It will be done

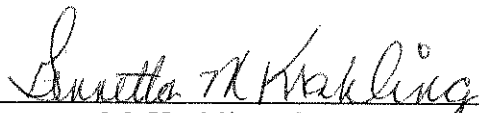
Mr. Kicklighter – If I may, yall can possibly coordinate with the private sector like he was saying I think it would work out pretty good where which I know you are probably already doing where you have a staging area where all the taxi are

located or a bunch of em and your free shuttle could just run them back and forth to the staging area where all the taxi's are located and that is usually and I say usually I do not know, Basically people that have a convenient way to get a ride home they are not going to make a mistake by taking there vehicle and now they can be picked up right downtown at a staging area and pay for a taxi probably would be convenient for everyone. You could keep the congestion out of the downtown area, just one huge vacant lot where they can stage it

Mr. Rivers – Like I said, we have to correlate everything that we are doing with the City of Savannah who is in charge and controlling the traffic and everything else. All those things that yall requested we are considering all those things that we can do. Ty and I , we have talked this past week about Charter and charter related stuff and we are pretty much on top of it and I assure you that we will get you a report early enough so that your concerns before the next meeting can be addressed even if we are covering something's that you all think we should address.

Mr. Chairman - okay, meeting adjourned

Meeting recessed at 11:42 a.m.



Gennetta M. Krahlings
Gennetta M. Krahlings, Secretary, Treasurer
Chatham Area Transit Authority