

MINUTES OF THE ADA COMMITTEE MEETING DECEMBER 8, 2021

**GREATER PEORIA MASS TRANSIT DISTRICT
2105 N.E. Jefferson Avenue, Peoria, Illinois 61603**



DATE: Wednesday, December 8, 2021

PLACE: *Greater Peoria Mass Transit District Offices*

PRESENT:

Patti Sterling Polk	CityLink Trustee & Program Chair
Doug Roelfs	CityLink General Manager
ShamRA Robinson	CityLink Assistant Director of Operations
Angel Marinich	Transdev General Manager
Jodi Scott	Advocates for Access
Chris Mitchell	Passenger (virtual)
Susie Smith	OSF Senior World
Ken Boddie	CityLink Director of Operations
Reema Abi-Akar	Tri County Regional Planning
Carla Jackson	CityLink Transportation Specialist

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1&2.Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Trustee and Committee Chair Patti Sterling Polk at 1:03 PM on December 8, 2021. Everyone introduced themselves and the meeting began.

3.Approval of Minutes:

Trustee Patti Sterling Polk, Program Chair, brought forth the minutes from the October 13, 2021 ADA meeting for approval. **Jodi Scott made a motion to approve, and Reema Abi-Akar seconded the motion. Motion Passed.**

4.Updates from ADA Committee Members (also includes some new business)

Trustee Polk was very pleased that everyone brought back their boxes, and all were treated to something special for completing the task! One item she then mentioned was the fact that there was no “project” for the ADA Committee moving forward. We have discussed and thought about having a true celebration for ADA in July of 2022. **Patti asked everyone to think about working towards this as a group. She asked for ideas to be brought forward for this celebration. This will be the 2022 project for all to work on. Patti was thinking of advertising, location, and the event itself to let our clients know that we are out there working for them and doing as much as we can.** Then Trustee Polk talked to all members about what they had come up with on their “boxes” for new ideas for paratransit. Their ideas were shared with the group. Trustee Polk’s vision for the group is to establish parameters to grow the group for ADA Committees of the future. Here are some updates from **Chris Mitchell:** In the past the ADA Committee worked to create safety for passengers at the Peoria Production bus stop. The transportation needs of people receiving services at Glen Park Place were evaluated. Some riders attended who had experienced 2 hour waits for CityLift rides. **Below are ideas shared by the group for thinking outside the box:**

Angel: thought it would be good to go to other agencies, ie, an open house perhaps pool a few funds together for each agency to donate to another one maybe for a specific need
Have a joint job fair . . . for people interested in working at Transdev and beyond
Do travel training

Get legislators involved with ADA for support

Chris Mitchell:

Chris thought it would be beneficial to ask CityLink and CityLift drivers to attend an ADA meeting; perhaps the ADA committee could have an open house thanking drivers, road supervisors inviting their comments over refreshments. We need to maintain services for those who cannot read (one in five people), and to assist those who do not have a computer or smartphone skills.

Reema Abi-Akar:

Collaborate with more community groups, and bring in speakers or collaborators from various organizations to present about their organizations/services

Explore a service comparison to the gray area in our region-collaborate with jurisdictions outside of Peoria (across the river) to make this happen.

Jodi Scott:

As outreaches start back up have information or handouts to provide to committee members who are already participating

Survey CityLift ridership to guide where there is a defect in services

Bariatric lifts in 1 to 2 buses for larger people

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ShamRA Robinson:

Participate in an event hosted by a committee members organization to learn more about what our committee members do

Participate as a committee with a city-wide resource fair or community event so that people can discover who we are and what we do

Bring art to the TC building from partners/clients

Susie Smith-Senior World:

Thank you for your kindness, respect and dignity you provide to the Senior World clients

Ken Boddie:

Acknowledge community members who make an effort to support ADA population

Voice annunciators at all stops

Improve accessibility at all bus stop locations

Doug Roelfs:

Enhance service to the gray area

Equip all buses with quantum securements

Improve sidewalks and bus stop access

Trustee Polk asked that there be committees established for the ADA Celebration in July of 2022 so these committees can go forth with ideas. She would like some ideas at the February 9 meeting, ie, location, what we will do, what are we looking for. She would like specific steps that can be assigned to work towards

Our target population is everyone! Could we have free rides on a certain day? Agencies could have booths, possible entertainment, demonstrations . . . what is it like to be visually impaired, etc. how do we work with dementia and Alzheimers patients. Patti asked everyone to see what their organizations will provide. Patti would like presentations at our meetings about what their organizations do, and she would like someone to take responsibility to get a speaker at our meetings. She will bring this up to the group again in February.

5.Public Comments:

There are none for this meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be February 9, 2022 at CityLink, Community Room, at 2105 NE Jefferson, Peoria, Illinois

Angel and Martin were commended for their commitment of caring and compassion and service to Senior World by Susie from Senior World

By: Patti Sterling Polk
Patti Sterling Polk, Program Chair