

SAUGEEN MOBILITY

and REGIONAL TRANSIT

GENERAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, June 24, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

Classroom, P&H Centre, Hanover, ON

Board Members Present: Councillor Warren Dickert, Town of Hanover Councillor, Board President
Councillor Beth Hamilton, Municipality of West Grey, Board Vice-President
Vice Deputy Mayor Mike Myatt, Town of Saugeen Shores, Board Past President
Councillor Doug Bell, Municipality of Arran-Elderslie
Councillor Dave Cuyler, Municipality of Kincardine
Councillor Jim Frew, Township of Southgate
Councillor Dean Leifso, Municipality of Brockton
Mayor Scott Mackey, Township of Chatsworth
Councillor Ed McGugan, Township of Huron-Kinloss

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Catherine McKay, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

President Warren Dickert called the meeting order at 9:30 a.m.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Motion #2022-040

Moved by Doug Bell; Seconded by Dean Leifso

That the agenda for June 24, 2022 be accepted as circulated.

Carried

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting – May 27, 2022

Motion #2022-041

Moved by Scott Mackey; Seconded by Ed McGugan

That the minutes of the May 27, 2022 General Board Meeting be accepted as circulated.

Carried

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

A. Loucks and Loucks Presentation

The President advised that this matter would be on the Board's agenda for its next meeting.

B. Covid Policy Update

The President noted that the provincial masking mandate has been lifted and so SMART needs to decide whether to change its masking requirements or keep them as hospitals and other health care settings have done. He added that there has been some "push back" from clients on the requirement to wear a mask and driver compliance has not been 100%. He invited comments from Board members on the matter. Beth Hamilton noted that drivers can have a client call the office to clarify the requirements if the client does not want to wear a mask. She added that the office reminds clients about the masking requirement when booking the ride. Scott Mackey said he understands keeping masking requirements in hospital and congregate settings, but it is difficult to maintain if the rest of society is not doing it, and he does not see the need to keep SMART's masking requirement. Ed McGugan agreed with Scott Mackey, but said that people with vulnerabilities should be able to wear a mask if they want and their decision should be respected. Dean Leifso noted that his office

requests clients be masked, but it is not mandatory. He believes that clients should be able to request that their driver be masked and that such requests be respected. Doug Bell noted that elsewhere in the P&H Centre, a class was taking place where all those attending were wearing masks. He said that when he was recently in a health care facility, the staff's opinion was that masking would continue, and the health care workers said that they have been less sick as a result of wearing masks. His opinion in that masking should be a choice.

Motion #2022-042

Moved by Scott Mackey; Seconded by Ed McGugan

That masking for SMART clients be optional not mandatory, and that masks be kept in vehicles to accommodate client requests that a driver wear a mask.

Carried

6. New Business

A. BWDSB and GBCDSB Request for Service

The President explained that SMART currently provides rides to a BWDSB student living in Huron Kinloss which is a member of the SMART partnership. The rate is \$96.00, but it is not clear how this amount was arrived at. The issue is whether to continue this service as well as a request to include service for a student that lives in South Bruce. (South Bruce is not a member). In response to a question from Ed McGugan, it was noted that the headquarters of the BWDSB is in Chesley, and the Catholic Board is in Hanover, both of which are members of the SMART partnership. The President noted that the price is likely above cost recovery, but with the recent increases in the price of gas, that may no longer be the case. Scott Mackey suggested that SMART should provide rides to support a child going to school, but should not lose money in the process, and ideally should make some profit. He suggested that the service could be declined if SMART is not covering its costs. Beth Hamilton said she would be more comfortable if this service were part of a written agreement. Dean Leifso suggested that the rate is likely the same as that paid to the school bus companies. The President asked if the Board agrees that he should pursue the issue further with the goal of providing service at a rate above cost recovery. Scott Mackey suggested that this is an opportunity to increase SMART's exposure in Grey Bruce and every person helped matters.

Motion #2022-043

Moved by Scott Mackey; Seconded by Doug Bell

That the President pursue the issue of providing service to the Bluewater District School Board and the Grey Bruce Catholic School Board on an "above cost recovery" basis.

Carried

B. Staff Recognition Event and Introduction of New Manager

The President noted that positive support has been demonstrated by SMART staff during this transition period and suggested holding a special event to recognize them and introduce the new Manager. He suggested that a Sunday would be best as drivers will be available. Scott Mackey asked what the budget for such an event would be and the President noted that planning had not yet gone that far. Scott Mackey suggested that a barbecue be held at a maximum cost of \$500.00.

Motion #2022-044

Moved by Scott Mackey; Seconded by Dave Cuyler

That the SMART Board host a staff appreciation barbecue with a maximum budget of \$500.

Carried

7. Closed Session

Motion #2022-045

Moved by Jim Frew; Seconded by Dean Leifso

That the Board of Directors of SMART move into Closed Session at 10:00 a.m. to consider personal matters about an identifiable individual and employee negotiations.

Carried

The Board of Directors of SMART reconvened in open session at 3:39 p.m. and the President confirmed that the Board had gone in closed session and discussed personal matters about an identifiable individual and employee negotiations and that no other matters were discussed.

Motion #2022-046

Moved by Mike Myatt; Seconded by Ed McGugan

That the Board of Directors of SMART confirm direction given to the President in closed session with regard to the recruitment of a Manager.

Carried

8. Adjournment

Motion

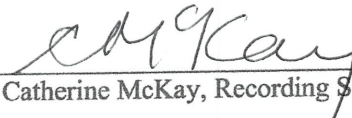
Moved by Ed McGugan; Seconded by Beth Hamilton

That the Board of Directors of SMART adjourn at 3:40 p.m.

Carried



Warren Dickert, President



Catherine McKay, Recording Secretary