

Ross Valley Yellow Bus Transportation Services

Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement

Joint Committee

September 19, 2019

7:00 PM

San Anselmo Town Council Chambers, 525 San Anselmo Ave, San Anselmo, CA 94960

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL at 7 pm

JEPA Board members:

Town of San Anselmo: Brian Colbert, Dave Donery

Town of Fairfax: Renee Goddard, Garrett Toy

County of Marin: Katie Rice, Nancy Vernon

Ross Valley School District: Wesley Pratt, Rick Bagley

II. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

No one spoke during this time.

III. JEPA BUSINESS MEETING

Item	Presenter	Action
A. Accept April 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes	Chairperson	Approve

M/s Bagley, Rice to accept April 22, 2019 Meeting Minutes. Ayes: Brian Colbert, Dave Donery, Renee Goddard, Garrett Toy, Katie Rice, Nancy Vernon, Wesley Pratt, Rick Bagley Noes: None Absent: None

B. 2019/20 Program Operations & Pass Sales Update	Marin Transit	Discussion
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Kelly Zalewski, Marin Transit, made the presentation. Zalewski went over how the program is funded and the bus and route configuration.

Goddard asked if anyone had heard the parents questioning the equitability of the amounts being paid. No one had heard complaints.

Zalewski stated there were 860 net passes sold this year compared to over 900 passes sold last year. Zalewski stated the waitlist is mostly an expression of unmet preference, not need. Rice expressed interest in seeing the number of students eligible for reduced passes. Zalewski stated 20 students have received the free Youth Transit Pass passes and started using transit. Donery stated there must be a cause somewhere for the lower amount of pass sales. Bagley stated there were several parents who mentioned that they wanted to give the money to the Yes Foundation instead.

Item III. A Accept September 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Zalewski went over the website issue that occurred on the night of pass sales. Zalewski stated that the night that passes went on sale, the payment gateway for monthly payment plans was limiting the number of transactions that it would process in a minute. After staff figured out what was happening, the developer made setting changes and all the transactions went through. During this process some routes sold out and there were parents who were upset. Colbert stated it seemed like a miss on the developer's part that they did not load test before that night. Zalewski stated staff called and emailed all the parents who left voicemails and emails and tried to adjust the available supply. Colbert stated he had gotten positive feedback about how staff handled it.

Goddard asked when do sales happen for bus passes. Zalewski stated next year Marin Transit is considering using a lottery system to issue passes with ranked choice routes. Vernon wanted to know how parents would enter the lottery. Zalewski stated it would be through a google form on the website and then a lottery sorter would be utilized. Colbert asked if there were any other ideas. Zalewski stated this seemed like the fairest way to do it. Colbert stated they could auction passes off. Vernon asked if free and reduced students would be in the lottery too. Zalewski stated yes.

Pratt asked if the lottery would be proofed before it is scrambled. Zalewski said they would want a clean data set and said they would bring back a more detailed plan at the next meeting. Colbert mentioned there would need to be full transparency to the process and wondered if they had considered livestreaming the drawing. Rice stated the lottery should be a totally blind process with no names attached to the application. Rice mentioned the lottery could occur at JEPA meeting. Goddard stated people are going to have to trust, because it would cost money for the extra staffing. Zalewski stated in the spirit of an auction, later buses could potentially be priced lower. Rice stated variable pricing should be considered.

C. Five-year budget Marin Transit Discussion

Kelly Zalewski, Marin Transit, made the presentation. Zalewski emphasized how important funds from Measure AA, the County and Towns are.

Bagley asked when the contract was up with Michaels Transportation. Zalewski stated the contract is for 3 years and ends in 2022. Rice stated she assumes there is parking fees for the buses and wanted to know if those might be more in the future. Nancy Whelan stated it could be. Rice asked at what point, would we purchase our own yellow busses. Whelan stated when we have a place to park them. Rice wanted to know the dollar figure for a yellow bus program as a target.

Whelan stated through year three, the program is balanced, as long as the towns and County continue with contributing to the program.

D. Supplemental funding source for income qualified family passes Marin Transit Discussion

Nancy Whelan, Marin Transit, made the presentation regarding supplemental funding sources other jurisdictions had utilized for helping income qualified families. Vernon asked how much would need to be raised to make the passes free. Whelan stated around \$25,000 since there is probably about 50 students that need it.

Rice had an idea for Marin Transit offer their youth passes for the regular transit system to the sale of the yellow bus pass as an added value. There was consensus to explore the idea.

E. Accept Bylaws JEPA Board member Approve

Item III. A Accept September 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes

M/s Bagley, Rice to accept Bylaws. Ayes: Brian Colbert, Dave Donery, Renee Goddard, Garrett Toy, Katie Rice, Nancy Vernon, Wesley Pratt, Rick Bagley Noes: None Absent: None

F. Elect Vice Chair JEPA Board member Approve

M/s Rice, Donery to elect Renee Goddard to be the Vice Chair. Ayes: Brian Colbert, Dave Donery, Renee Goddard, Garrett Toy, Katie Rice, Nancy Vernon, Wesley Pratt, Rick Bagley Noes: None Absent: None

G. Set date, time, location and agenda topics for next meeting Chairperson Approve

There was JEPa consensus to meet again in February. At that meeting, it was suggested that the agenda should include the following items for discussion: plan for lottery system for bus pass sales, consideration for auctioned bus pass sales/variable bus pricing for later buses/adding youth passes for regular transit to the yellow bus pass, further research for supplemental funding sources for income qualified families, electing a new chair, status of the Mill Valley bus program.

IV. **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Colbert mentioned a Marin IJ article about the Mill Valley bus program with an issue of ridership. Rice felt there was value to have a quick status of their program. Goddard wanted to know the number of bikers and the distance to schools.

Rice stated Golden Gate Transit got rid of the last leg of a transit route in Sleepy Hollow. She is in conversations regarding transit options for the Butterfield corridor. Rice is looking into making a transit model that may help the JEPa too.

V. **8:13 PM ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Kacmar
San Anselmo Town Clerk