



Local Advisory Committee

Thursday, November 14 @ 12PM

Benzie Bus Station

Minutes approved as presented January 16, 2025

Members:

Ingemar Johansson PRESENT
Bev Popp PRESENT
Jerry Heiman PRESENT
Jessica Carland (Staff) PRESENT

Doug McFarlen ABSENT
Eric Lilly ABSENT
Doug Durand PRESENT
Sophia Hogarth (Staff)
PRESENT

Open LAC Seat
Jessica Garder (Chair) PRESENT

1. **Welcome Guests, Staff, and Call to Order** Chairwomen Gardner called the meeting to order at 12:30pm
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment** None
4. **Review and Approve Agenda** Motion by Durand, supported by Johansson to approve the agenda as presented. All ayes, motion carried.
5. **Review and Approve May 2024 Committee Minutes** Motion by Durand, supported by Popp to approve the May 2024 committee meeting minutes as presented. All ayes, motion carried.
6. **Old Business**
 - a. **Bylaws** - Carland recommends that we send out the previous meeting minutes when bylaws were mentioned. Sophia to send out minutes.
 - b. **Draft LAC Application** Gardner recommends that we send out the previous meeting minutes when LAC application was mentioned. Sophia to send out minutes.
 - c. **BTA Millage Increase Passed** 59% approval rating - was 83% last time around when it was a renewal. State funding is forecasted to drop, so passing this mileage was needed. Jessica and Chad head to Washington D.C. in March to speak on a legislative level to argue why we need more state funds. Benzie Bus receives 35% from state funding and 18% from federal funding.
7. **New Business**
 - a. **Traverse City Connection** With the suspension of TCX, Benzie Bus is still able to accommodate rides to Traverse City, through transferring in Interlochen to BATA.
 - b. **Flex Route** This is a new deviated fixed route running from Benzie bus station to Benzonia, to Frankfort and back between 7a-7pm Mon-Fri. Flex Route guide getting printed now.
 - c. **National Aging and Disability Transportation Center (NADTC) Grant** \$34,600 planning grant awarded to Benzie Bus to start the process of growing Health rides.
8. **Committee Roundtable** None
9. **Next Meeting:** Tentatively January 9th 2pm
10. **Adjournment** Meeting Adjourned at 12:55pm.