



**Tri-Valley Transit
Orange/N. Windsor E&D Partner Meeting
September 13, 2022 – 1:00pm to 2:30pm
TVT Randolph Offices and via Zoom
DRAFT MINUTES**

Attendees – Mike Reiderer and Stephanie Stearns, Tri-Valley Transit; Rita Seto and Peter Gregory, Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission; Jeanne Kern, Central Vermont Council on Aging; Alana Phinney, Central Vermont Council on Aging; Wendi Germain, Senior Solutions; Amanda Smith, MAHHC; Mark Bradley, Bugbee Senior Center; Amanda Jordan Smith, Mount Ascutney Hospital and Health Center; Jared Pendak, Upper Valley Services.

Regrets – Gifford Adult Day; Scotland House Adult Day; Deanna Jones, Thompson Senior Center; Jim Moulton, Tri-Valley Transit, Jade McClallen, Tri-Valley Transit; Gretchen Pembroke, Clara Martin Center; Katharine Otto, VTrans; Matthew Arancio, VTrans; Tim Bradshaw, VTrans.

Meeting Minutes

1. Introductions

Rita called meeting at 1:00pm and roll called those present.

2. Partner Updates

MAHHC – Amanda reported that MAHHC is fully open and is providing rides through the Rides to Wellness program. They provide rides to 7 towns in the Windsor region (Hartland is most northern, Weathersfield is increasing need). There is a need for volunteer drivers (currently have 42 drivers). Amanda noted MAHHC is focused on trying to retain volunteers through creating a team atmosphere – recognizing volunteers on weekly/monthly newsletters and have businesses donate items to show appreciation to volunteers.

Senior Solutions – Wendi reported the need for more volunteer drivers like everyone else with currently 10-12 volunteers. Wendi also inquiring when the transportation contracts to partners will be coming out. (Mike reported soon, TVT staff shortage working through administrative items).

CVCOA – Jeanne reported she is retiring at the end of September. Jeanne introduced Alana Phinney (present) CVCOA's Wellness Coordinator who will also take over transportation coordination. CVCOA relies heavily on the E&D/Ticket to Rides and will need detailed information to assist Alana in the future. CVCOA also



looking for the transportation partner grant agreements so they know how much grant funds they are working with as it's nearly first quarter.

Upper Valley Services – Jared reported they are glad of the Bradford Circulator return and providing public input on any modifications to the route. UVS is using the Job Access and Reverse Commute grant. They are also suffering from volunteer driver deficit. They have a client from West Fairlee that needs to commute to Lebanon, NH to the Listen Center.

Bugbee – Mark reported they have a Life After Driving workshop with Vital Communities. Bugbee has suspended their transportation van – with a 25% budget cut to the nutrition program, they decided to cut the van since it was only transporting 8 trips a month. Advance Transit is looking at microtransit along their routes and this hopefully will provide transportation to those to Bugbee.

Tri-Valley Transit – Mike also reported a volunteer driver deficit (pre-Pandemic had 32 volunteers vs. now 14). TVT has maintained critical care/dialysis rides. Social/recreation rides are of less priority. TVT is also short staffed. From July 2021 to May 2022, TVT has provided 4452 rides.

Mike reported microtransit studies have been completed in Middlebury and will begin looking at Orange/Northern Windsor (Randolph and Woodstock). Rita and TRORC graciously will be working with TVT and VIA consultant to collect data in Woodstock for microtransit study.

TVT also looking at a solution for the volunteer driver deficit at possibly non-CDL drivers.

Amanda from MAHHC inquired about the mileage reimbursement rate that other partners are using. They are using the Charitable Rate of \$0.14/mile vs. the Business Rate of \$0.625/mile. She'd like to know what impacts to volunteers and MAHHC if they are able to use the higher rate. Rita will inquire on behalf and report out to the group.

TVT will send partners their grant agreements and invoices.

3. Next Meeting – December 2022.

The meeting adjourned at 2:05pm.

Submitted by: Rita Seto, TRORC