MINUTES

Members Present:

Councilman James Hilty, Chairman
Tracey Alesiani (arrived 2:37 pm)
Jeffrey Askew
Susan Hanley (arrived 2:34 pm)
Benjamin Akinola
Same Weekley

Members Not Present:

Meagan Crowley
Charmaine Richardson
Kathleen Woodring

Others Present:

Greg Slay, TPO Director
Ken Odom, TPO Staff
Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Staff
Donna Hersom, Marion Transit Services
Julie Poole, Marion Senior Services

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman James Hilty called the meeting to order at 2:32 PM. Secretary Kayleen Hamilton called the roll of members; a quorum was present.
Item 2. Proof of Publication

Secretary Kayleen Hamilton announced the meeting was published online at the city of Ocala, Belleview, and Dunnellon websites and on the TPO’s website and Facebook page.

Item 3. Review and Approval of the Transportation Disadvantaged Trip and Equipment Grant Application

Mr. Odom presented the Transportation Disadvantaged Trip and Equipment Grant application from Marion Senior Services. The grant would cover non-sponsored trips and equipment purchases. Mr. Odom advised that Marion Senior Services did not plan to purchase additional buses.

Mr. Askew made a motion to approve the grant application. Mr. Weekley seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Item 4. Community Transportation Coordinator Contract

Mr. Odom reported that Marion Senior Services had been approved by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) to be the Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) for Marion County. The CTC agreement outlined the responsibilities of the CTC and was executed between the Commission and the CTC.

Mr. Slay asked if the agreement had been taken to the Marion Senior Services board, and Ms. Poole advised that it would be presented at their next meeting. Mr. Askew asked about vehicle insurance, and Ms. Poole thought that it ran around $12,000-$13,000 per year. Marion Senior Services insured their vehicles locally through Brown and Brown Insurance.

Item 5. Community Transportation Coordinator Rate Schedule

Mr. Odom presented the CTC rate schedule. The CTD had made some policy changes to the rate structure. There would no longer be a charge for escorts riding with passengers. Ms. Hersom reported that Marion Transit used the CTD’s rate calculation worksheet to arrive at the rate schedule. There had previously been a base rate and a per mile charge; now the rate was only a per mile charge. Ms. Hersom said that the new rates were in line with the old rate that had included a base plus mileage.

Mr. Askew moved for approval of the CTC rate schedule and Ms. Hanley seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.
Item 6. Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 16, 2015 Meeting and Public Hearing

Mr. Weekley made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 16 public hearing and meeting. Mr. Askew seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Item 7. Comments by TDLCB Members

Mr. Hilty reported that he had been approached by quite a few people regarding transportation to The Centers. Mr. Slay mentioned that staff had previously been approached about providing a SunTran route to The Centers; however, because of the length of the route and lack of population density, it was not cost effective to provide fixed route service. Mr. Slay suggested that a subscription service could be discussed. Mr. Hersom mentioned that Marion Transit transported a number of clients to and from The Centers, and commented that one of the issues with transportation to service centers like that was that there was a high number of “no shows.” Mr. Hilty proposed a meeting to discuss commitments from and responsibilities of the various agencies. Ms. Alesiani asked about the satellite facilities, and Mr. Slay advised that those facilities did not offer the services that were needed by the clients going to the main site.

Mr. Hilty asked about the cost of a SunTran route, and Mr. Slay advised that it was about $300,000 per year. Mr. Askew wondered about a grant to cover the cost, and Mr. Slay said that initial startup could be funded by a three-year service development grant. After the initial period, the local municipalities would have to provide a fifty percent match.

Mr. Hilty said that he would work on coordinating a meeting between the agencies to discuss transportation to The Centers.

Item 8. Comments by CTC

There were no further comments by the CTC.

Item 9. Comments by TPO Staff

There were no further comments by TPO staff.

Item 10. Public Comment

There were no comments from the public.

Item 11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m. by Chairman Hilty.
Respectfully Submitted By:

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Kayleen Hamilton, TPO Administrative Assistant