

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting
Thursday, November 4th, 2021, 9:00 AM
Zoom

Present: Chair – Kimberly Kirk, Roxanne Ackerman, Kathryn Shertzer, Michael Watts
Others/Staff: Coordinator of Pathways & Special Projects – Samuel Hart,
Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi, Transportation Director – Marc Rivers,
Transportation Assistant – Chyenne Ward, Transportation Admin – Anastasia Carter
Supt.'s Office: Superintendent – Matthew D'Andrea, Asst. Superintendent – Richie Smith,
School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman
Recorder: Teresa Kruszewski

Call to Order: (Agenda Item #I)

The meeting of the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School (MVRHS) Transportation Sub-Committee was called to order by Chair Kimberly Kirk at 9:06 AM on Thursday, November 4th, 2021. Participation was available remotely by Zoom. To preserve bandwidth, it was suggested that participants join via the Zoom audio and reserve video links for Committee members and administration. In order to facilitate the technology, the meeting was recorded.

(Recorder's Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity).

Approval of Minutes: (Agenda Item #II)

Tabled.

FY23 Transportation Budget: Discussion and Vote: (Agenda Item #III)

— Committee members were in agreement to hold off purchasing electric buses until an infrastructure plan was in place; a professional, outside of the School system, was needed to give correct guidance to put in front of towns for funding. The price differential for electric vs. gasoline buses: \$400,000 vs. \$100,000.

— Three 2010 buses were in need of replacement; could they be held off one year without safety risks?

— A recommendation was made to lease two gasoline buses, each with a five year operating lease.

— Superintendent D'Andrea said there was tremendous support for electric buses and suggested placing infrastructure needs on warrant articles. He cautioned the perception of going backwards if gas buses were purchased.

— Suzanne Cioffi suggested expanding the Vehicle Planning Sheet to 2035 to include the needed infrastructure and how it fits into the masterplan of fleet replacement.

— Investing in non-electric buses this year would still enable hitting the goal of the 2035 commitment; foresees challenges for all schools to hit that date as affordability was a huge factor.

— Electric bus maintenance for the Martha's Vineyard Transit Authority (VTA) was conducted by techs flown in from California; concern there was no one on Island to provide service. It was noted that the current Bluebird maintenance was done in Rhode Island; the two new electric buses were Bluebird buses and should be maintained through them.

— Superintendent D'Andrea said buses could not be shared/used by the VTA to transport the public; he said expanding the relationship with the VTA was worth investigating.

— The VTA would help out with charging the two new buses; uncertain how they would assist with additional vehicles. It was stated that to depend on the VTA to replace the schools needed infrastructure was not a good plan.

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MICHAEL WATTS MOVES TO APPROVE THE TRANSPORTATION BUDGET TO INCLUDE TWO LEASED GASOLINE POWERED BUSES AND INCLUSION OF \$25,000.00 TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY WITH RESPECT FOR THE CONVERSION TO AN ELECTRIC FLEET; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDS; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Drivers Agreement: Discussion and Vote: (Agenda Item #IV)

Please see minutes from the Transportation Sub-Committee October 26, 2021, agenda item III.

Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair: (Agenda Item #V)

None.

Adjournment: (Agenda Item #VI)

KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVES TO ADJOURN THE TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING AT 10:23 AM; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDS; MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS: MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Meetings/Events: (by Zoom)

- Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting: Tentative Date – November 18, 2021.

Documents on File:

- 1) Agenda 11.4.21 Transportation Sub Committee
- 2) FY23#2 Line Items - 11-04-2021
- 3) FY23#2 Run Rates - 11-04-2021
- 4) Vehicle Planning - as of 11-17-2020

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

January 20, 2022

Date

Kimberly Kirk – Transportation Chair

Date

Matthew D’Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

Approved January 20, 2022