

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting
Thursday, March 10, 2022, 8:30 AM
Zoom

Present: Chair – Kimberly Kirk, Roxanne Ackerman*, Kathryn Shertzer, Michael Watts
Others/Staff: Climate Advisory Committee Chair, West Tisbury – Kate Warner,
Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi, Transportation Director – Marc Rivers,
Transportation Assistant – Chyenne Ward
Supt.'s Office: Superintendent – Matthew D'Andrea, Asst. Superintendent – Richie Smith,
School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman,
Director of Student Support Services – Hope MacLeod
Recorder: Teresa Kruszewski *Late arrivals or early departures of Sub-Committee members (see * in text)

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 8:32 AM on Thursday, March 10, 2022. 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; the meeting was recorded.

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

Approval of Minutes: (Agenda Item #II)

*MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 20, 2022 AND
FEBRUARY 3, 2022; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 3 AYES,
0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.*

**Roxanne Ackerman arrived at 8:33 AM.*

Drivers Hiring Update: (Agenda Item #III)

Marc Rivers reported four individuals were currently in training, with four to six for the next cycle. He said going into next year they should be fully staffed based on the amount of inquiries he was receiving.

Fleet Status: (Agenda Item #IV)

- Older buses had minor issues and were addressed in a timely manner.
- Newer buses were being maintained on schedule.
- Determining which two 2010 buses would be decommissioned once the new electric buses were received was challenging.

Members asked how decommissioning was determined and what actual steps were taken: Mr. Rivers said many conditions were evaluated including the vehicle's history; drilling through the engine block would destroy the bus. Roxanne Ackerman asked if they could be used for housing? *(Please see document on file for The Volkswagen (VW) grant terms: APPROVED Transportation Sub-Committee Minutes January 20, 2022.pdf, p. 2, Agenda Item #V, para. #4.)*

Arrival of Electric Buses: (Agenda Item #V)

Mark Friedman said one of the two buses was completed and waiting to be shipped from Georgia to Rhode Island; the goal was to have the bus on Island next month (April). The second bus was not on the assembly line; completion/delivery was unknown.

Discussion of Frameworks for Electric Bus Fleet: (Agenda Item #VI)

Mr. Friedman recapped his conversation with the Director of Transportation at the Beverly School System (BSS):
❖ With very aggressive plans to move away from fossil fuels, they took the approach of leasing a vehicle;

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- Highland Electric Fleets (HEF), located in Beverly, MA. was the winning bidder.
- ❖ HEF provided vehicle and charging infrastructure including installation and maintenance; BSS provided the driver. After a year; they were very happy with the process and were looking to expand their fleet.
- ❖ Mr. Friedman said he would talk with HEF over the next few weeks to learn more.

Members asked:

How many other schools did they service and could we hear from them? What would the service response times be like with the uniqueness of the Island? What were the terms of running the bus, were there any restrictions? More information was needed to understand the model for selling power back to the grid; would it be beneficial to talk with Eversource?

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

Hope MacLeod said she would like to discuss transportation guidelines at a future meeting; Chair Kirk said she would be happy to add this to the agenda.

Adjournment: (Agenda Item #VIII)

KATHRYN SHERTZER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING AT 9:06 AM; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED 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: March 24, 2022 at 8:30 AM.

Documents on File:

- 1) 3.10.22 Transportation Sub Committee.pdf
- 2) DRAFT Transportation Sub-Committee January 20.pdf
- 3) DRAFT Transportation Sub-Committee February 3.pdf
- 4) Bus Agreement Proposal.docx

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

May 5, 2022

Date

Kimberly Kirk – Transportation Chair

Date

Matthew D’Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

APPROVED MAY 5, 2022