

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 23, 2022, 8:30 AM
Zoom

Present: Chair – Kimberly Kirk, Roxanne Ackerman, Kathryn Shertzer, Michael Watts
Others/Staff: Director of Market Development//Highland Electric Fleets – Amy McGuire,
Regional Business Manager/Highland Electric Fleets – Jason Raposa,
Director, Fleet Solutions/Highland Electric Fleets – Michael Callender,
Island Climate Action Network (ICAN) – Noli Taylor,
Coordinator of Pathways and Special Projects – Samuel Hart,
Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi, Transportation Assistant – Chyenne Ward,
Facilities Director – Mike Taus
Supt.'s Office: Superintendent – Matthew D'Andrea, Asst. Superintendent – Richie Smith,
School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman
Towns/County: Oak Bluffs – Maura McGroarty
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 8:34 AM on Thursday, June 23, 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)

Tabled.

Licensing Agreement for Bus Usage: (Agenda Item #III)

Murphy, Lamere & Murphy, PC/School District Counsel Peter Sumners, put together an agreement. Chair Kirk said it was very comprehensive; as an attorney herself, she said it was a very good agreement. Members asked for clarification on covering the school bus name on the sides of vehicles; Chair Kirk said she would follow up later this morning with the attorney to correct the language for bus signage. Maura McGroarty asked for a copy of the agreement, once finalized.

ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL COMMITTEE TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH BUS USAGE THIS SUMMER, SUBJECT TO THE SECTION OF BUS LABELING CLARIFICATION; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Status Update on Charging Stations and Electric Buses: (Agenda Item #IV)

Mark Friedman said both buses were on Island, chargers were installed at the bus lot and working as expected. He said there was a small technical issue identified in one bus, which was covered by warranty, and repaired by Anderson Bus. The buses were registered; the current status was in good shape to satisfy the Grant.

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Chyenne Ward said the buses were inspected on Tuesday and would be in service soon; Members were pleased.

EPA Grant Discussion: (Agenda Item #V)

Chair Kirk said this was an incredible opportunity to get rebates for electric buses, up to 25. She invited the team from Highland Electric Fleets to talk through the opportunity including the decision of ownership vs. leasing as that was still unknown. *(Please see document on file to learn more about Highland Electric Fleets: APPROVED Minutes Transportation Sub-Committee May 5.pdf, Agenda Item #III, pgs 1 & 2)*

Amy McGuire said the MVRHS was well positioned for this grant opportunity; they did not charge for this assistance. She outlined some of the benefits in partnering with them for the process:

- Assistance with pricing as they could provide information for volume benefits and so forth.
- Guidance for planning for the future, how to grow the fleet and make good decisions for expansion.
- Expertise and ability to work within a tight timeframe.

(Please see document on file for details: Highland MV Presentation 6.23.22)

After a lengthy discussion, Chair Kirk recommended not taking this on alone, but to use their expertise.

Roxanne Ackerman said there should be a 10 year vision/plan, any funding would need to be a warrant article; people were very interested now, especially with the cost of gas and diesel.

Michael Watts said this would be a game changer and should include this at the next MVRHS SC meeting to start the discussion of the bus ownership structure; Chair Kirk said it would be part of the Sub-Committee updates at that meeting.

MICHAEL WATTS MOVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL COMMITTEE THE RECOMMENDATION TO MOVE FORWARD TO MAKE THE APPLICATION USING HIGHLAND ELECTRIC FLEETS AS A RESOURCE IN CONNECTION WITH THAT APPLICATION; ROXANNE ACKERMAN SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Old New Business: (Agenda Item #VI)

None.

Adjournment: (Agenda Item #VII)

ROXANNE ACKERMAN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE TRANSPORTATION SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING AT 9:38 AM; KATHRYN SHERTZER SECONDED; MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

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Meetings/Events:

- Transportation Sub-Committee Meeting: July 7, 2022 at 8:30 AM.

Documents on File:

- 1) 6.23.22 Transportation Sub Committee (1).pdf
- 2) REVISED 6.23.22 Transportation Sub Committee (3).pdf
- 3) 2022 EPA Clean School Bus Rebates Overview.docx
- 4) MV School Bus License v1 06.13.22 (1).docx
- 5) participants_85364605290 (3).csv

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

September 15, 2022
Date

Kimberly Kirk – Transportation Chair

Date

Matthew D’Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

APPROVED September 15, 2022