

PORA Sun Cities Transit Committee Minutes for

Meeting November 18, 2020, 1:00 pm

Members Present: Kathy Chandler, Deeann Hoover, Barbara Horton, JR Reese, Yasmina Snider

Members Absence: Harry Abramowski, Carmen Reid. Pam Schwartz (excused absence), Trudy Ware

Minutes: Members present approved the minutes to the 10/13/20 SCTC meeting with minor revisions.

General Discussion

The Committee discussed the following old and new business.

- Kate reviewed the SCTC's two prong educational strategy:
 - I. SCTC will educate residents in the Sun Cities about:
 - Transit needs in the Sun Cities and the transit and funding options identified in surveys.
 - The public, in turn, educates SCTC about what it thinks the transit needs are and what funding options are viable.
 - II. SCTC will meet with legislators and its County Supervisor to educate about:
 - The need for transit in Sun Cities, transit and funding options, and necessary legislative changes to Prop 400 renewal that will enable the Sun Cities to compete for these funds (need to work with PORA's Intergovernmental Affairs Committee)
- Kathy Chandler described several aspects impacting transit functions.
 - For instance, MAG did not want, & is willing to change, the guidelines.
 - The ideal transit structure in a jurisdiction is to have a Transit Plan, a Transit Planner, and a Transit tax. While Surprise has the first two items, it does not have the latter which has inhibited transit progress. On the other hand, Peoria is able to provide its circulator because the jurisdiction has a transit tax.
 - The Sun Cities *do not have a presence of individual wanting transit*. If unincorporated jurisdictions banded together to request transit from the County Supervisor (Hickman), the country should be able to fund a transit planner for them, but they would still need a special taxing district to fund transit options.
- The members then broke into two groups to brainstorm on separate topics.
 - **Group I** tried to expand on the number of "channels or mechanisms" the SCTC could use to educate residents, as well as expand on the number of audiences to educate.
 - **Group II** worked on making a case for "why the Sun Cities need transit/circulators", and identifying the necessary legislative changes that would allow the Sun Cities to compete for Prop 400 funds if it was renewed.
- The Groups will resume at the next meeting & report out then.
- Next meeting is scheduled for December 3, 2020 at 9 a.m.