

**ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT  
RT. 81 COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT ESTUARY TRANSIT DISTRICT  
MEETING**

**March 11, 2014**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Estuary Transit District Route 81 Committee was called to order by Virginia Zawoy at 9:35 a.m. at the Estuary Transit Offices, Centerbrook, Connecticut.

**ROLL CALL**

Those in attendance included: Virginia Zawoy, John Forbis, Joan Gay

Staff: Joe Comerford, Christina Denison

Guests: Rep. Tom Vicino (via telephone conference), Mary Willis (via telephone conference)

Absent: Allison Meshnick, Liz Glidden

**PLEDGE**

Chairman Zawoy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Joe Comerford made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 25, 2014 meeting. Virginia Zawoy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Correction: Rep. Vicino, Joe Comerford and Joan Gay attended the Killingworth Chamber of Commerce meeting.

**PROGRESS TO DATE**

Rep. Vicino noted the importance of targeting the right groups (e.g. employers, students and libraries) when marketing the proposed route and the public hearing. He suggested fine tuning the committee's list of contacts.

Joe reported that VISTA will be bringing 10-15 students to the hearing and will organize a writing campaign. He noted that the colleges have not responded to date. Joe also reported that he has met with the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce and several of its divisions. He reported that RIVERCOG has voted to support the project. Joe will personally contact the First Selectmen in each town.

Rep. Vicino will be meeting with Clinton Crossing management in the coming week. Virginia Zawoy has had several meetings with Clinton Social Services Dept. which seems enthusiastic.

Rep. Vicino has received Joe's letter and will forward it to DOT. Joe will follow-up with DOT and invite them to the hearing. John Forbis stressed the importance of obtaining letters of support from individuals who indicate that they will not be able to attend the public meeting. Copies of these letters will then be sent to DOT.

Rep. Vicino will work with his staff to develop a poster and flier to mail out.

Joe has contacted Comcast to run a public service announcement; however, no dates are available before the public meeting. Mary Willis believes this avenue should still be utilized in to market what is being done. Joe reported that the event has been publicized on Facebook and Twitter.

Joe and Mary Willis are working on analyzing the economic impact on the Route 81 corridor.

The Committee discussed what items will be needed for the public meeting.

Virginia Zawoy reported that Beach Donuts will donate refreshments the night of the hearing.

Rep. Vicino left the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

The Committee reviewed the list of contacts and made several additions and revisions. Chris Denison will make changes to the list per the Committee's suggestions and forward the revised list to the committee members. Joan Gay reiterated the importance of calling each contact prior to the hearing to encourage them to attend, as well as writing a personal note.

#### **DISCUSSION OF ITEMS FOR APRIL 17, 2014 BOARD MEETING**

None

#### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of the Rt. 81 Committee will be on Tuesday, March 24, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at ETD offices.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**John Forbis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:52 a.m. Virginia Zawoy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Denison  
Administrative Secretary

Virginia Zawoy  
Chairman