

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

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

**February 25, 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 (via telephone conference), and Liz Glidden (via telephone conference)

Staff: Joe Comerford, Allison Meshnick, Halyna Famiglietti and Christina Denison

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

**PLEDGE**

Chairman Zawoy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the February 14, 2014 meeting had previously been approved at the February 21, 2014 Board meeting.

**PROGRESS TO DATE**

Rep. Vicino noted that speaking with small groups has proven very effective. He and Joe Comerford attended the Killingworth Chamber of Commerce meeting, as well as the meeting of the Westbrook Division of the Middlesex Chamber. Rep. Vicino reported that the response to the project was overwhelming. Joe has also spoken at the Essex, Deep River and Chester division meeting. He and Liz Glidden will attend the Haddam/East Haddam Chamber meeting.

Rep. Vicino, Mary Willis, Joe Comerford and Allison Meshnick attended the CACT Legislative Breakfast on February 20, 2014 at the Capitol. They were able to speak with many "high level" officials, including the DOT Commissioner and his liaison, to discuss the project.

Joe Comerford and Mary Willis will meet to review Joe's letter to DOT outlining the project and DOT's role to make certain that all major points are covered. Rep. Vicino

will then forward the letter on his letterhead to the DOT Commissioner. Joe and Mary Willis have both spoken to Mike Sanders, who has agreed to attend the April hearing.

Rep. Vicino applauded the group for their efforts and indicated the importance of now marketing the project. He suggested lining the circle outside the Clinton Town Hall with buses the night of the hearing. Allison Meshnick also suggested having the CT Rides Cost Calculator available. She reported that bus service along Rt. 1 will be extended the night of the hearing. Rep. Vicino is making plans to take the bus to work and to have the event covered by the press.

John Forbis recommended obtaining endorsement letters from each of the towns. He also suggested inviting the Board of Finance Directors from the towns to the hearing.

Rep. Vicino also suggested starting a petition in late March which would be presented to the Governor.

Virgina Zawoy will contact Beach Donuts about providing refreshments the night of the hearing.

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. Virgina Zawoy reiterated the importance of calling each of the contacts on the list prior to the hearing and encouraging them to attend.

Fliers were distributed at the meeting and will also be posted on each of the buses.

#### **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 11, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at ETD offices.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**John Forbis made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 a.m. Virginia Zawoy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Denison  
Administrative Secretary

Virginia Zawoy  
Chairman