

A meeting of the Royal Oak Transit Task Force was held on Wednesday January 17, 2018, in the Salter Community Center, 1545 E Lincoln, Royal Oak. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Donigan at 7:20 p.m.

	PRESENT	ABSENT
Chairperson	Marie Donigan	
Members	Brian Cook	Rebecca Maas
	Paul Curtis	Ilene Orlanski
	Sharlan Douglas, MPT	David Woodward, OCC (9:04pm)

Also present was James Krizian, Assistant to the City Manager and Judy Davids, Engagement Specialist

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INTRODUCTIONS

The committee members introduce themselves.

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APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Cook
Seconded by Curtis

Be it resolved, the agenda is hereby approved.

Adopted unanimously

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Douglas
Seconded by Cook

Be it resolved, the minutes of December 13 and December 20 are hereby approved

Adopted unanimously

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**STAKEHOLDER REPORTS
IMPRESSIONS FROM TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

Ms. Donigan gave an overview on what the committee has been discussing the last couple of meetings.

There were no stakeholder report updates.

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**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
DISCUSSION SURVEY**

The staff discussed the survey they were looking to distribute to the community. It was discussed to have simpler questions, a shorter survey and to review the timeline. It was decided to have Ms. Donigan, Ms. Douglas, Ms. Davids and Mr. Krizan meet to finalize the questions and get the survey out to local groups.

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OPEN HOUSE

The committee discussed hosting an open house. They felt that they needed to have the survey results first to evaluate what they should have for the public. It was suggested to have some busses at the open house for people to see, as well as bus routes/maps for the public.

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STUDY GROUPS AND COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Ms. Donigan, Mayor Pro Tem Douglas, Ms. Davids and Mr. Krizan were assigned to work on the survey.

Mr. Cook, Mr. Curtis and Mr. Woodward were assigned to work on the open house details.

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ON-DEMAND SERVICE

Ms. Donigan explained how on-demand service is an advanced form of transportation such as Lyft and Uber. The committee was going to see how they could work out details and see how it could work with SMART. It was suggested to see if they could somehow scale it for residents.

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SMART AND RTA ACTIVITIES

Ms. Donigan announced that the Fast Bus started on January 1 and she spoke about the service.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Cameron Lassoney voiced concerns about a system involving busses. He preferred going into the direction of micro transit as technology is changing now. GM has applied for permission to sell cars without steering wheels. To invest in a bus with a 12-year lifespan may not last that long. People like door to door service and autonomous cars are going to bring that.

Ms. Maryann Dunmire, 921 Fernwood, has used some of the services of the senior transit a few years ago. One reason they don't have transit is because they are told needs are changing and in the mean time people are stuck at home. For someone who just needs to go to a shoe repair store micro transit would work. What do people do once they get to their destination? People can walk ½ mile in summer, but not the winter. If she has a lot of packages it is hard to bring them home. She was also concerned with timing and wanted handicap spaces on main and Washington.

Ms. Marilyn Wojczan, 1110 Montrose, felt the question on the survey should ask if they were interested in a local bus system supported by a millage.

Ms. Janice Wagman, 600 Wellesley, stated that the citizen satisfaction survey questions show that it's obvious people don't know what they already have. Let them know what is available. If they do a survey now, they will be missing the snowbirds input since they are in Florida for the winter. They need to go to seniors for their input. Nowhere on the survey does it say how much this will cost. How much are they willing to pay? School transportation is the responsibility of the schools. It shouldn't be part of the city's

responsibility. Transportation for seniors and those disabled have limited hours; their hours need to be longer. The senior citizens advisory committee needs to be reinstated.

Mr. Clyde Brown, 1010 Whitcomb, questioned the orange flags on map handouts. He was concerned about cut through traffic on his street as well as where the bus shelters would be located.

Ms. Donigan stated that was a conceptual map. No routes have been planned yet throughout the city.

Mr. Chuck Altman, stated that the new Fast Bus service is fantastic. There are more stops in royal oak, it arrives every 15 minutes and he bet a lot of people didn't know about it. More education needs to be done as well as getting the word out for residents.

Ms. Victoria Schunk, read an article from pew research regarding parking structures. She commended them for their work on this, but she didn't know if she wanted to pay for it. Not a lot of parents will want to put their kids on a bus in royal oak. They need a lot of research on this and how to facilitate it.

Mr. Geoff Vasquez, 1309 S Washington, stated there needs to be a lot more work to determine the demand for transportation. Once that is established, then you decide how to meet the demand. People are using Uber and Lyft, but demand needs to be defined.

Mr. Alex Shnaider, 1011 Knowles, felt they have too many taxes and millages. There are certain observations being made in the past but some routes that run through royal oak would only have 2-3 people using them. If they took all the people who ride the busses and put them all together vs millages, it would be cheaper to buy them new cars, insurance and gas for those cars. The end doesn't justify means. Too many people have vehicles and they like convenience of jumping in car.

Ms. Tina Boyze, stated she is 1.9 miles from downtown. She would love to walk into downtown, but it's far. She wants to be able to walk to Main and jump on a bus to feel more connected to the downtown. She would love to get rid of her car and use the money for transit.

Mr. Danny Torressan, 103 Normandy, wanted to know if the service would go out of the city such as the MJR theater or Somerset. It would be nice if the bus would go downtown to the Fisher or the Fox a couple times a month.

Mr. Woodward arrived at 9:04 pm.

Ms. Donigan thanked everyone for their comments.

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SET NEXT MEETING DATE

The committee was hoping to have another meeting set prior to having an open house for the public.

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ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion of Ms. Douglas and seconded by Mr. Curtis, the meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Melanie Halas, City Clerk