

Notes
Fox Valley Advocacy Coalition
Tuesday, February 19, 2019

Members Present:

Amie Bastien	Outagamie County HHS
Timothy Carey	DisabilityVoice (per speaker phone)
Jill Gretzinger	Easter Seals Wisconsin
Holly Keenan	Making the Ride Happen
Nick Musson	East Central WI Planning Commission
Katie Peterson	Wisconsibs
Harriet Redman	Wisconsibs
Leann Stein	SOAR Fox Cities
Dave Steele	Goodwill
Shannon Zwitter	Making the Ride Happen

- I. Introductions
- II. Notes - No changes.
- III. Treasurer's Report – Leann reported the Coalition treasury stands at \$2368.
- IV. Announcements/Correspondence
 - Leann shared information about the upcoming K.I.T.E. Conference being held Saturday, March 9 at FVTC. Has a variety of break-out sessions on topics related to special needs.
 - Jill noted the Annual Wheelchair Wash will be held on Friday, May 3. Tim will put the flyer on the Coalition's website.
 - Holly noted Making the Ride Happen has a new newsletter with news and events and an updated website.
 - Jill shared an update on the Guardian Assistance Program. Outagamie County HHS sent out a mailing including a thank you to guardians in January that was well received. Will provide Tim with a flyer to post on the website.
 - Tim reported he installed a counter on the Coalition's website. In the last 60 days it had 115 visitors, with 50 being new visitors.

V. Agenda Items

- **Caregiver Discussion for Educational Program for Stakeholders**

- Jill and Harriet shared a letter inviting stakeholders to participate in our caregiver educational program. Harriet noted that Governor Evers just signed a declaration on a state-wide Task Force on Caregiving. Harriet shared the make-up of the task force and its purpose. A press release went out today regarding the new task force. Our letter may be revised to take this information into account to make it a stronger message. Will wait for our next meeting to determine if we want to tweak it. Holly and Tim agreed to reach out to Representative Rohrkaste to determine if he might be interested in being educated about this topic.

- **Valley Transit Development Plan**

- Nick shared the plan will soon be receiving recommendations from SRF as to how to make the system more efficient, more streamlined, and increase its reach. Once the report and recommendations are received there will be public outreach/hearings for comments.
- Valley Transit has a new phone application that allows an individual to see where the buses are and when they will reach a bus stop. Holly has used this with the Bus Buddy Program. Go Transit in Oshkosh has a similar app. Valley Transit is also looking to have their website be more user friendly.

- **Making the Ride Happen/Catch a Ride Update**

- Winnebago Catch A Ride is working to find more volunteer drivers. Flyer for this program was shared. This program is run by Feonix Mobility Rising and is focusing on employment transportation. Drivers will receive \$.54/mile. Have received some grant funding to provide employment rides. To use the service the ride must either start or end in Winnebago County. Try to use existing services first and then use this program to fill the gaps. Currently working with Forward Services Clients.
- Making the Ride Happen is working with Fox Cities Greenway and Bike Federation to provide a “cycling without age” program using Trishaws. There is funding for the trishaw and in planning stages to have a trailer and place to store the trishaw. This is looked at as another form of mobility.

VI. New Business

- East Central Wisconsin Planning Commission is taking part in a feasibility study about commuter service around HWY 41. Looking at options to connect all transit providers from Fond du Lac to Green Bay. Good representation on the committee to look at what this corridor could look like when connected.
- Amie provided fourth quarter transportation numbers for Valley Transit. Breakdown of rides provided to elderly and disabled.
- The Department of Transportation has a new head named Craig Thompson. Very knowledgeable with experience in this field. There is a transportation task force that has a wide variety of participants looking at a wide range of ideas for funding transportation.

VII. Old Business

- GWAAR is collecting data about people's experiences using MTM (Medicaid transportation provider). If you know of someone who has had good or bad experiences using MTM please share with Sandy Popp at the Options for Independent Living Program. The service was put out for proposals and MTM is appealing the bidding process so they will continue to be the provider until further notice.

VIII. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the Coalition will be **Tuesday, April 16** at 1:00pm. The meeting will be held at SOAR Fox Cities at 211 E. Franklin Street, Appleton.