



## **Citizens Advisory Committee Minutes**

**February 13, 2019**

**Location: OPC Board Room, Camden, NJ**

### **Attendance:**

**New Jersey:** Mike Devlin, Alan Becker, Daniel B. Norfleet, Martin King, Pamela Mack-Brooks, Reggie Hayne, Bruce Schwartz

**Pennsylvania:** Tom Jordan, Tyrone T. Wesley, Daniel McArdle, Larry Davis, Mike Rochester, Bob Melikan, Ben Sarullo

**Emeritus Member(s)**

**Potential Member(s):** Strasso Jovanovski, Kristen Ricchiuti

**DRPA/PATCO:** John Rink, Elisabeth Klawunn, Dawn Whiton, Barbara Wagner

**Public Member:** Richard Highland

**Others:** Natalie Wesley

### **Call to Order**

#### **Adoption of Minutes from November Meeting**

Minutes of the January meeting were approved.

### **PATCO**

- Car refurbishment: 116 in service, 2 commissioning and the last 2 refurbished trains will be delivered on February 21, 2019.
- Additional trains will be added a new schedule starting on February 18 to accommodate peak hours to meet ridership demands.
- To date, 7400 people have signed up for DRPA/PATCO text alerts.

- Detectives performed an excellent job with the investigation and apprehension of the assault suspect regarding the Collingswood Station sexual assault incident.
- In 2018, Patco management has been conducting monthly management observations. 452 observations were made by management for PATCO trains and stations. Listed are the top 5 complaints for both:  
Trains: newspapers, floors, LED monitors, vandalization of Logo on windscreens and rust found on the seat edges and heater covers. Stations: Lights, floors, peeling paint, graffiti/stickers and trash.
- Share Freedom Card website is currently live to check balance on card.
- Chief Stief reported that \$120,000 in revenue has been reclaimed by the DRPA from toll violations.
- PATCO's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be celebrated on Friday, February 15, 2019 starting at the Woodcrest Station. Handouts, balloons and cookies with the PATCO logo will be handed out to PATCO riders. Riders will be charged retro fares back to 1969. A formal press release will go out on February 11, 2019.
- The elevator at the Collingswood Station should be up and running soon. Hope to have definite date by next CAC Meeting.
- PATCO's hashtag is #PATCO50
- PATCO would also like See Something, Say Something to report any destruction or repairs as well as seeing something suspicious. Riders can use red phones by the Fare Gates to contact customer service. Riders can also use Facebook, Twitter or E-mail to report.
- Public Member, Law Professor Richard Highland, a 20 year Rider, expressed concerns to the PATCO Committee about the volume, announcement frequency and number of repetitions on the new trains. PATCO's response was that the volume auto-adjusts to be above the ambient noise level of the train.
- Larry Davis – PATCO Watchers discussed late train announcements. Alerts on LED Screens are not available at this time; however, train schedules are up and running on screens. Toll Technology on the bridges have been board approved by the Commissioners in January 2019. The design phase is scheduled to start March 2019.
- A motion for leave of absence was granted for Martin Ortremsky due to his employment with the Philadelphia Phillies. Mr. Ortremsky will remain a member of the NJ delegation during his time away.

- Google Group Administration: All current DRPA CAC Members should be confirmed as being a part of the group. Follow-up with Jeff Kessler
- ByLaws: Last reviewed in 2017. Asking Members to make recommendations for updates. Once completed forward to the Audit Committee for approval.
- Recruiting: 3 potential members (2 Emeritus, 1 new)
- Role of Officers: There is an opening for CAC Officer positions in April. The breakdown of duties include: Head Count, Agenda, Google Group Administration, Guests and Recruitment. The Individual Chair will decide how these duties are divided among the Officers. Accepting nominations on March 13, 2019 and vote on April 10, 2019.
- Committee Structure: Not effectively utilizing the subcommittee structure. Look at restructuring and/or eliminating some subcommittees.
- Welcome Packets: Need updates from each Department, so it can be given to all new incoming members.
- Tours of the Ben Franklin Bridge's Anchorage will be scheduled during the spring/summer months.

### **Engineering**

- Solar Project will reduce the DRPA/PATCO's electric usage by one/half. The Courier Post ran a recent article on the DRPA/PATCO's push for sustainability.
- Coopers Ferry: Recently there were several news stories on the Coopers Ferry Waterfront Project that has been soliciting public feedback. The DRPA offered suggestions on the walkway extension around the Ben Franklin Bridge, but is not funding this Project.
- I-76 Corridor: 100% of the Plans were received on January 18, 2019 involving repair and cleaning of the passenger tunnel overpass. Plans for the vegetation and drainage on I-76 have been submitted to re-route rain water. A question was also asked regarding art/murals on the passenger passageway. Murals are not feasible due to the brick walls. Will get more information if canvas painting could be mounted on walls.
- Benjamin Franklin Bridge Walkway: Ornamental railing being fabricated now. There was a question about extending hours on the walkway. Answer given was there are existing security issues regarding personnel and equipment.

## **Committees**

- A. Finance. Nothing to report.
- B. Communications - Nothing to report.
- C. Persons with Disabilities. Nothing to report.
- D. Recruitment – Martin Otremski’s advised that he would be resigning or potentially be in a holding position. Kristen Ricchiuti and any Emeritus members that have submitted applications will be moved forward to interview with the Audit Committee.
- E. Personnel. Nothing to Report
- F. Operations/Engineering. Nothing new to report.
- G. Old Business/New Business – Nothing to report.

## **OPEN Forum:**

Group would like to ask Robert Hicks to speak to the group on new toll taking technology.

Group would like to ask David Aubrey to come and speak to the group on status of audits.

**Next CAC Meeting:** Will be held at One Port Center on March 13, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.

**Next DRPA Meeting:** DRPA Board Meeting on March 20, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.