

GoTriangle Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
August 26, 2020
Held Remotely via Microsoft Teams

Board Members Present Remotely:

Will Allen III

Corey Branch

Sig Hutchinson

Wendy Jacobs (arr. 12:18 pm)

Vivian Jones

Valerie Jordan

Mark Marcoplos

Michael Parker, Chair

Jennifer Robinson

Stelfanie Williams

Board Members Absent:

Michael Fox (excused)

Steve Schewel (excused)

Chair Michael Parker officially called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

I. Adoption of Agenda

Action: On motion by Hutchinson and second by Jones the agenda was adopted. The motion was carried unanimously.

II. Public Comment

No comments.

III. Consent Agenda

Action: On motion by Allen and second by Jones the consent agenda was approved. The motion was carried unanimously.

The following consent agenda items were approved:

- July 22, 2020 – Regular Session Minutes;
- Authorized the President/CEO to award and execute a contract with Whitley Contracting Inc. for construction, installation of bus stop amenities, and other improvements at sixteen (16) GoDurham bus stop locations in the amount of \$298,295 and authorized a total contract budget of \$328,295 to include \$30,000 for project contingency; and
- Approved updated Title VI program and policies, which are attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

IV. General Business Agenda

A. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

None.

B. Legal Services Contract Award

Tom Henry requested Board approval of contract with Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell in Washington, DC for assistance with commuter rail work. He stated the firm was ranked first by the selection committee of the four proposals received. Henry added that the contract's not to exceed value is \$200,000 and is expected to be for two years.

Action: On motion by Allen and second by Branch the Board authorized the President/CEO to execute a contract for legal services with the firm of Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell LLP, with a not-to-exceed value of \$200,000, to support GoTriangle in its role as sponsor of the Greater Triangle Commuter Rail (GTCR) project and provide the agency with supplemental legal expertise in the field of railroad law. The motion was carried unanimously.

C. Lease to Durham County for Temporary Employee Parking

General Counsel Curran explained that the Federal share in this property has been repaid as required by FTA due to the importance it could have for the commuter rail project. Durham County has asked for a temporary three-year lease on the property as they rebuild a parking deck. They will be responsible for design, engineering and construction and GoTriangle will retain ownership.

Action: On motion by Jones and second by Branch the Board authorized a lease with Durham County for a 1.83 acre lot owned by GoTriangle located at the northeast corner of West Chapel Hill Street and South Duke. The motion was carried unanimously.

D. Nominating Committee Meeting

Robinson offered the Nominating Committee report. She stated the Committee is recommending that the current officers serve a second term due to the changes and challenges GoTriangle has experienced this year. The election will be held in September.

V. Other Business

A. President and CEO's Report

A list of contracts approved by the President and CEO is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes. Included in the agenda was a report on the Durham County Transit Plan update and the FAST Study.

Lattuca highlighted the following items:

- Weekday ridership weekday is about half the pre-COVID levels. Weekend ridership is about 81% of the pre-COVID numbers.

Jacobs arrived.

- Staff continues to discuss with our partners the possibility of resuming fare collections, perhaps in October.

1. COVID-19 Update

Eric Bergstraesser stated that staff continues to monitor total number of riders on the buses in order to add trippers when necessary. He said all buses have mask dispensers and all buses except for the two Proterra electric buses have barriers installed. Bergstraesser said he continues to follow UVC light pilot programs to determine if the technology would be viable for GoTriangle. Additionally, GoTriangle is working with its air filtration manufacturer to add a different filter in the buses.

2. Capital Projects Status Report

Katharine Eggleston's update on the commuter rail project is attached and hereby made a part of these minutes.

Lattuca stated that a letter was received from Norfolk Southern, through NCRP, raising a host of issues that need to be addressed. He said staff is working with NCRP on a response and he is seeking a meeting with John Edwards from NS to discuss. He said one comment from NS is that they have a lot of studies going on in North Carolina and limited resources for those studies. He noted that GoTriangle's commuter rail study is the most advanced project right now and should be considered first.

Lattuca then reported on his research on Name the Train. He stated that in most cases this process was developed when service was being changed, an anniversary was being celebrated or a new service was being established in the next 12-18 months. He stated that it is a bit early for GoTriangle, with another 18 months of study, followed by a couple years for the EIS and then construction.

Parker reminded the Board of GoTriangle's Sponsorship & Naming Rights Policy, which opens up opportunities for revenue generation.

B. General Counsel's Report

General Counsel Curran reported that the Patterson Mill litigation, which was related to the D-O LRT project BOMF property, has been settled and dismissed. She stated that the plan is to wait until the Durham and Orange County transit plans have been updated to see if these properties are needed.

Curran stated that the RUS Bus project is making great progress; the BUILD grant has been signed and executed and the developer is working on the 30% designs for the transit facility. The Section 106 environmental review is going well. Construction is not slated to begin until 2022. The joint development agreement should be executed by year end.

C. Chair's Report

Chair Parker thanked GoTriangle staff for their hard work in difficult times. He suggested a future employee event to express appreciation.

D. Board Member Reports

1. CAMPO Executive Board Representative

Will Allen III reported that the group received an updates on the R.E.D. Priority Bus Lanes study and the Fayetteville-Raleigh Passenger Rail Study.

2. DCHC MPO Board Representative

Michael Parker reported that the MPO reviewed the 2050 MTP draft goals and objectives, which will be coordinated with CAMPO; amended the LPA for the Chapel Hill Transit NSBRT; and received updates on the two county transit plans and the FAST study.

3. Regional Transportation Alliance (RTA) Representative

Will Allen III reported that two events were held, the annual transportation breakfast which included a report on the FAST study and the zero fare study, and the I-40 regional partnership annual meeting.

VI. Adjournment

Action: Chair Parker the meeting was adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.

Prepared by:



Michelle C. Dawson, CMC

Clerk to the Board of Trustees