

**FAX ADA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 2007
PUBLIC WORKS CONFERENCE ROOM (4017N)**

PRESENT:

Ed Eames, Chair	Emma Artin
Toni Eames	Juana Garcia
Mary Kasson, Vice Chair	Al Lucero
Olivia Ostergaard	Paul Hertz
Carol Casey	Mary Beth Randall, CCB
Edward LaComb	Kizito Okoranyanwu, FCEOC
Marilyn Jost	Cheryl Parreira, DHHSC
Susan Smith	Elizabeth Kunz, City of Fresno
Betty Brown	Rick Steitz, ATU
Eric Felisciano	George Helton, ATU
Harold Seward	Adam Ramier, ATU
Annette Carter	Dwight Brashear, MV
Cynthia Ortegon	Paul Kwiatkowski, MV
Patrick L. Simmons, Sr.	
Brandie Holland	Ken Hamm, FAX
Brent Bethell	Dean Huss, FAX
Richard Felix	James Samuel, FAX
Wesley Van Gilder	Richard Diaz, FAX
Suzann Soliday	Carlos Duarte, FAX
Alma Mendoza	Debbie Garcia, FAX

• **INDICATES ACTION ITEM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Eames called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. Introductions followed.

Mary Kasson welcomed Chair Eames back and presented him with a card and a gift certificate. She also read a letter from Chair and Toni Eames thanking the members for their well wishes and gift basket during his recovery from surgery.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 16, 2007

Page 1: Patrick Simmons was listed twice; remove one.

Page 3: Change to: "Annette Carter requested that the minutes/agendas be converted to Arial 14 point font." She also requested that all future handouts be in same font type and size.

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- **On motion by Toni Eames, the minutes of February 16, 2007, were approved as corrected.**

III. ATTENDEE ITEMS (20 MINUTES)

Agenda Packet

In response to Annette Carter, Chair Eames said her request to receive the minutes on tape would need to be made in writing, and should be a reasonable accommodation.

Handy Ride

In response to Patrick Simmons, James Samuel said he spoke with the MV technicians and they were working with the manufacturer to replace the window latches which would eliminate window rattling.

In response to Patrick Simmons regarding Handy Ride vehicles waiting a few minutes instead of having to place a new call, Paul Kwiatkowski discussed the problems associated with drivers having to wait and said adhering to the schedule was necessary.

Betty Brown inquired about the Handy Ride Discount Pass Program since Handy Ride had been late in picking her up approximately 14 times since November. Carlos Duarte would follow-up.

In response to Alma Mendoza regarding the Mid-Month Discount Pass, Carlos Duarte would meet with her following the meeting.

Suzann Soliday described her personal issues with late pick-ups and return trips. Paul Kwiatkowski apologized for her experiences and would look into her particular circumstances.

Marilyn Jost and Cynthia Ortegon found that the wheelchair lifts were a little shorter and narrower and there were only two wheelchair securement places on the new buses. The air conditioning did not reach the back of the bus, but noted that the buses rode nicely.

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IV. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Disability Awareness Training

No report.

B. Driver Appreciation Subcommittee

Carlos Duarte said Subcommittee Chair Bill Sheen and Susan Smith made the presentations at City Hall for the Driver Appreciation Awards on Tuesday, March 6, 2007. Carlos Duarte provided the names of the 3rd and 4th Quarter recipients and read their biographies.

C. Handy Ride Transition Subcommittee

Mary Kasson said the Subcommittee met on February 26, 2007, where Mary Beth Randall discussed Braille signs and brochures. It was suggested that Grade 1 Braille be used, and that Braille signs be placed in buses.

D. Guide to Ride Subcommittee

Mary Beth Randall said all major changes had been completed. The subcommittee was waiting for the service area to be defined, and FAX's review of the Guide.

V. HANDY RIDE SYSTEM

A. Update on No Shows

- **Deferred to April agenda.**

B. On Time Performance Update

- **Deferred to April agenda.**

Handy Ride Vehicle Delivery Update

James Samuel said there were currently two new buses in service and two had yet to be delivered. Each of the four new buses were ordered to accommodate four wheelchairs, but arrived with only two. However, they would be retrofitted with two more wheelchair securement areas. Eight additional vehicles were scheduled to be delivered in April and would have four wheelchair securement areas. James Samuel would also look into the air conditioning and wheelchair lift platform concerns.

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VI. REPORT FROM FAX

A. Review Table of Open Issues

- **Deferred to April agenda.**

B. Handy Ride Audit Report

Ken Hamm discussed in detail the results of the outside consultant's report and recommendations. He reviewed the "2007 Handy Ride Audit and Summary of Findings & Recommendations" with the committee (on file at Fresno Area Express). He would also present this report to the City Council at its Tuesday Meeting.

In response to Toni Eames, Chair Eames confirmed MV would be required to submit a bid.

Ken Hamm said feedback from the committee would be sought prior to implementing recommendations. Exceptions would include purchasing new vehicles and facility related enhancements.

Chair Eames requested that the committee focus on immediate implications of the report for Handy Ride services and that paratransit eligibility be addressed at a later time.

In response to Chair Eames, Ken Hamm anticipated within a matter of months, FAX would be looking at properties for Handy Ride that would include a new building, room for staff, additional parking, and improved maintenance area. Further, that new vehicles would meet required specifications. In response to Ken Hamm, Dwight Brashear said MV was prepared to move forward with a new facility as well as adding new vehicles. He also confirmed MV's desire to stay in Fresno.

In response to Mary Beth Randall, Ken Hamm anticipated the new vehicles would replace high-mileage vehicles, and six vehicles would be held in reserve.

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Chair Eames discussed the Handy Ride boundaries and that the duplication of services between Fresno and Clovis was not an issue to be addressed in this meeting.

In response to Olivia Ostergaard, Ken Hamm said if the sedans were no longer needed, they could be used for FAX staff purposes or relief vehicles since they were City-owned.

Ken Hamm said he and Chair Eames met to review the items the committee wanted incorporated into the RFP, including a suggestion to extend the reservation period. Dwight Brashear indicated that software was available which could be used to notify the passengers about the arrival of a Handy Ride vehicle, an issue that had previously been endorsed by the committee.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Marilyn Jost announced the IRS would have a booth for Disability Awareness, and volunteers were needed.**
- **Marilyn Jost announced an upcoming event on April 13, 2007, at Manchester Center. She would notify members via e-mail with more details concerning the ADA Disability Freedom Bus Tour.**
- **Marilyn Jost announced the Fresno Disability Rights Act (FDRA) was a way to network with various agencies that handle situations that deal with the disabled population.**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before the FAX ADA Advisory Committee, Chair Ed Eames adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m. Any questions, comments, or concerns may be directed to Chair Ed Eames at 224-0544. You are all invited to attend the Fresno ADA Advisory Council's Meeting following the FAX ADA Advisory Committee's Meeting from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., in Room 4017N.