

## Town of Bourne **TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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**Transportation Advisory Committee  
Minutes of the Meeting  
February 19, 2015, 3:30 pm Bourne Community Center**

Attending: Chair Wesley Ewell, Vice Chair Robert Parady, Clerk Sallie Riggs, John Carroll, Dan Doucette, Cindy Parola, Dennis Woodside; Selectmen Peter Meier, Stephen Mealy, Glenn Cannon, Patrick Tierney, Cape Cod Commission; Paul Gately, *Bourne Courier*; a member of the public.

Call meeting to order: Chair Wes Ewell called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

Minutes: Wes asked for corrections or amendments to the Minutes of the Committee's meeting on January 8, 2015. There being none, it was then MOVED, SECONDED and VOTED unanimously to accept the Minutes as circulated. He then asked for corrections or amendments to the Minutes of the Joint Meeting with the Selectmen on January 20, 2015. There being none, it was then MOVED, SECONDED and VOTED with one abstention to accept the Minutes as circulated

Commuter Rail: Wes opened the discussion by noting that the article at Special Town Meeting passed, thus putting the question of Bourne joining the MBTA on the ballot at the Town election on May 19. (May Town Meeting will be May 11.)

He suggested that we begin planning for some public forums in the weeks just before the election. After a brief discussion there was consensus to put scheduling public meetings on the agenda for the next meeting of the Committee.

Glenn Cannon reported that the Commission's meetings with MA DOT – to discuss the Commission's report and the state's planning activities – had been cancelled because of the weather. He forwarded his report to the staff at the Boston MPO and they said they would review it by early March. Glenn stated that he believes that means they have an interest in the project. After a brief discussion there was consensus to invite the Central Transportation Planning staff (CTPS) to the next meeting of the Committee. Glenn will invite them.

Glenn also noted that he believes the ridership figures in the state's 2007 report are overestimated. A few committee members stated that they question whether the current projection of 600-800 is an over-estimate.

A discussion developed about questions that the public is likely to ask, in addition to the eleven or twelve that the Committee developed. Several were articulated:

- Where will the train stop? Don't want to block Academy Drive
- Where will the train sit overnight?
- What is the proposed length of the platform?
- What is the process to determine if the MBTA actually comes to Bourne, if the May vote is positive?

Wes stated what he characterized as a basic question: Why does the Town want commuter rail? Committee members shared their thoughts and Wes summarized a response:

*For the Town, commuter rail to Buzzards Bay can be an economic generator with new investment in Downtown buildings and redevelopment. Transit Oriented Design, where people live, work and play without needing a car, could characterize the Village.*

*For the individuals, commuter rail could mean fewer hours lost from traffic delays, more comfortable rides than the bus, and savings in gasoline.*

*For the region, reducing car traffic can result in fewer greenhouse gasses emissions.*

He concluded: where transit comes in, development brings more in than it takes out.

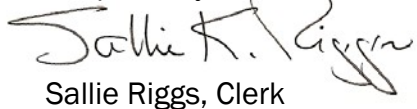
Several other questions were raised as examples of what voters might ask. Glenn took notes and said he would forward them to the CTPS before their meeting with the Committee.

Updates and reports from Committee members: there were none.

Future agenda items: John Carroll asked that the Committee consider the possibility of an extension of the bike path from the current terminus in Falmouth at Route 151 to the Canal.

Adjourn: The next meeting was set for Thursday, March 19. The meeting adjourned about 4:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Sallie Riggs, Clerk

Future Agenda Items:

- Extension of Shining Sea Bikeway to the Canal
- Adams Street update
- Local roads and road taking policy
- MA DOT consultants and a report on Belmont Circle planning
- Bicycle and pedestrian concerns
- Canal fishing and charter boats