

**Western Washington University Associated Students
Transportation Advisory Committee**

Friday, November 18, 2011

2:00pm

VU 567

Present: Sara Richards (AS VP for Student Life, Chair), David Burgesser (AS Alternative Transportation Coordinator), Katie Vainikka, Skylar Hinkley, Patrick Stickney

Absent: Iris Maute-Gibson (AS VP for Governmental Affairs, Vice Chair), Chelsea Reiss (Student-at-Large), Daniel Benowitz

Guest: Carol Berry

Secretary: Katie Savinski

MOTIONS

T-1 I-F-02 Approve the minutes of Friday, November 4, 2011 *Passed*

Sara Richards, VP for Student Life, called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. REVISIONS TO AGENDA

VU Kiosk by David

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION T-1 I-F-02 by Stickney

Seconded by Vainikka

Approval of the minutes of Friday, November 4, 2011

Vote: 5- 0- 0

Action: Passed

IV. PUBLIC FORUM

V. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Carol/University Plan

Carol Berry presented the University's transportation plan. She explained that this was made as a guideline but it does not function as a timeline for action. This plan was approved by the Belfingham City Council and Western Washington University's Board of Trustees. It was last updated in 2001. She explained that some of the plan's proposals have happened while others have not. She gave the committee the example of the service road that runs behind the Fairhaven residents halls. It is very narrow and some envisioned cutting into the hillside to extend and widen it for vehicle access; this had not been done. Adding a turn signal to Bill McDonald parkway and 25th street to improve traffic congestion was a change that was eventually made, and the issue is no longer prevalent. She explained that there had been talk about parking facilities, potentially garages, but resolved a portion of the parking issue via the Lincoln Creek Park and Ride. She explained that the enrollment of students at Western has grown steadily in its history but has since plateaued on the edge of bursting the seams of land use. (Skylar Hinkley left 3:25). Berry said this committee could take their ideas to the AS Board of Directors and potentially make changes. Richards noted that some items in ASTAC's Master Plan coincide with the University's plan. Berry expressed the concern that students are not allowed full engagement in large scale campus changes because the students are only here for a short period of time. Richards asked where the University Plan stood on the water-front development and how students would be transported from point to point if this was ever implemented. Berry explained that there is a safety concern for building down in that area at the time being.

B. Shuttle/Graffiti

Burgesser explained that the Western Student Shuttles were vandalized with graffiti over Halloween weekend and one additional time since. He wanted to get input from the committee on possible solutions to this problem. He said that the security cameras in the buses are focused on the drivers seat as a safety precaution, so no video footage was captured of the act. Richards supported the idea of bringing this story to the Western Front so students become aware of how fellow community members are treating property in which they pay for. Stickney said that going to the Western Front helped limit the graffiti being done in the Fairhaven tunnel, so he supported the use of the Western Front to promote this message as well. Vainikka suggested painting the buses to make them more interesting and less likely to be vandalized. Burgesser said there had been discussion in the past on purchasing vinyl wraps for the buses, but he wants to do more research. He thinks the most important thing right now is to make students aware of the vandalizing issue.

C. Communication with ATF

Burgesser explained that the ASTAC Charge and Charter states that the committee is supposed to maintain communication with Alternative Transportation Fee (ATF) committee and the Transportation office. He wants to develop a plan for doing so. He suggested that this committee send out the minutes to the ATF committee as requested. Richards suggested sending the minutes to a few particular individuals on the committee who may be able to better determine the relevance of our conversations in pertinence to their own.

D. Master Plan Updates

Richards said that she went through and added the items discussed in the last meeting. The next step after the vote will be planning to hold a forum. Burgesser hoped to discuss the role of this document more in depth. Richards said that she thought that this committee's role is to identify what student transportation issues are and build up evidence for showing that a specific change needs to be mad. Burgesser clarified that within this committee, they wifl be prioritizing the changes they wish to see in the coming year. Richards said that she will be emailing out the Master Plan again with additional updates over the next two weeks.

E. Viking Union Kiosk

Burgesser stated that the WTA information kiosk near the Viking Union is in need for a renovation. He asked the committee how they believed the kiosk should be used. Essentially, the kiosk will be remade to include a large comprehensive poster of all things transportation related. Shuttle schedules and maps, contact information, information about the ATF, and a campus bike map will be included.

VI. ACTION ITEMS**VII. NEXT MEETING DATE: December 2, 2011 from 2:00-3:00pm in VU 460****VIII. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY ACCLAMATION AT 2:55 P.M.**