



External Legislative Advisory Committee Minutes
Wednesday, August 18, 2022
1:30 PM – Virtual Meeting

Commissioners in Attendance:

Gaylene Kanoyton, Chair, ELAC
Commissioner August Bullock, Newport News
Commissioner Andria McClellan, Norfolk
Delegate Shelly Simonds
Carl Jackson, (Alternate) City of Portsmouth

Attendees:

Janice Taylor, League of Woman Voters

HRT Staff:

Brian Smith, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mike Price, Chief Information Officer
Alexis Majied, Chief Communications and External Affairs Officer
Gene Cavasos, Director of Marketing and Communications
Noelle Pinkard, Organizational Advancement Officer
Brenda Green, Finance
John Powell, Technology

Meeting commenced at 1:37 pm with a call to order by Commissioner Gaylene Kanoyton, Chair

Chair Kanoyton asked for motion to approve minutes from June 15, 2022, ELAC meeting. Commissioner Bullock made the motion; seconded by another Commissioner. Minutes were approved by committee.

Legislative Update – Noelle Pinkard

Federal

Noelle reported that as a result of requests submitted by Senators Kaine and Warner, the federal transportation appropriations bill, as reported by the Senate Appropriations Committee, includes \$2.24M for new paratransit vehicles and an expansion to our existing fleet. This legislation is pending consideration by both the full House and Senate which will take place after the mid-term elections.



Chair Kanoyton asked if there is anything HRT can do concerning the appropriations request – Noelle noted that Congress is in recess at this time, but that she would let committee know when direct communication would be most effective.

State

Noelle deferred to Delegate Simonds for any updates on the General Assembly. Delegate Simonds stated a lot of focus is currently on the Roe v. Wade ruling from Supreme Court.

Chair Kanoyton had some concerns with some funding that may or may not be used and that it may have to be returned if not used. Noelle stated that she would convey these concerns to Mr. Harrell.

Noelle reported that work has begun on both the federal and state legislative agendas. The agendas will be presented to Committee members for consideration at the September meeting.

Commissioner McClelland inquired whether Student Freedom Passes would be made available for this school year. Gene responded that Public Outreach staff is booked to be at various schools. Commissioner McClelland inquired if staff had considered a different process to make the passes more widely available. Gene responded that the mobile ticketing project might be able to integrate this program.

Upcoming Events -

Ribbon Cutting – Newport News Transit Center

An invitation to the NNTC Ribbon Cutting went out to Commissioners from Mr. Harrell. Noelle did note that the time has changed from 9:00 am to 1:30 pm. It will be held onsite on Tuesday, September 13, 2022.

Women in Transportation Seminar

HRT will be hosting the Women in Transportation Seminar on September 20, 2022, at 11:30 am. This will be held at 18th Street, Building 4, Boardroom. Noelle is coordinating this program and working with other staff at HRT to prepare for this event.

Old/New Business

Chair Kanoyton asked if there was any old or new business to share with the committee?

There being none, the meeting adjourned at 2:20 pm.