

Transit Action Group (TAG) Agenda
Tuesday February 20th, 2018 11am-1pm
ECIA
7600 Commerce Park
Dubuque, IA 52002

Meeting Minutes

Present: Crystal Giunta, Jess Bleile, Stacey Elliott, Bill Stumpf, Randy Rennison, Tammy Rausch, Ryan Feller & Tricia Wagner

TAG membership list passed around for updates. If you want to add someone let Tricia know and she will contact them.

RTA update: Students from a marketing class at Loras College are helping us with our marketing strategies and to develop an overall media campaign, including social media, and rebranding. Tricia met with the class last Friday to explain what we are looking for, suggested they do some ride-alongs to meet and interview the drivers and consumers, and come to a TAG meeting. There are four groups, and they will be presenting to the RTA as their final for the course on May 14th at 8:00am in the ECIA Large Conference Room. We'd like the TAG members to be part of our review panel, and help provide the students with questions and feedback.

Update on Delaware County Connections/Rides to Wellness. It was just decided that all volunteer drivers in Delaware County will need a Chauffer's license as they will drive the RTA/Delaware County Connections van. A Chauffer's license is very easy to obtain; just take your valid driver's license to the Driver's License Station and pay a small fee of \$4 on all years remaining before renewal (which RTA will pay) and they will upgrade your status. Tricia updated the volunteer driver flier to be specific to Delaware County and passed out copies. Goal is to find at least one volunteer driver per day M-F.

Resources Unite works with the Telegraph Herald and highlights an agency every month. They included our search for volunteer drivers as well as Bus Buddies in their latest feature. Tricia passed a copy of the ad around the table.

Transportation Summit on May 24th in Ankeny. Staff and workers from all agencies are encouraged to attend and to bring their feedback and share their thoughts and opinions and have a voice. Please let Tricia know if you would like to car pool.

Agency updates:

- Jessica Bleile, United Way – Grant process opened, currently sponsored programs have turned in their grant applications, and now just invited the New and Targeted Initiatives for their applications. The Investment Review Panelists made up of 24 volunteers are reviewing the grant applications. They received more letters this year than last (this is second year), exciting to see the interest!
- Ryan Feller, ECIA – Mainly working with the homeless services in Dubuque and Delaware County. Anyone who is category 1 homeless; living in their car, on the streets or in a shelter. Attempting to rapidly rehouse them in their own place and wrap supportive services around them. Here to learn and hopefully utilize the RTA services for those more rural clients who are isolated.
- Randy Rennison, Dubuque County Veterans Affairs/General Assistance – Will be doing All the Way Home again this year for veterans, held at Five Flags on Saturday, October 13th, 9am – 1pm. Committee is meeting this Friday to discuss and come up with guest speaker. Hoping for Brian Anderson, who is a triple amputee and wonderful motivational speaker (check him out on the web!). There will be hands on services for veterans, and roughly 100 booths. Audiology van, CBOC giving flu shots, dentist coming in, etc. RTA plans to have a booth at the event. Roughly 2,500 – 3,000 people came through last year from all of the different counties. Ginger Schoop coordinates benefits for homeless veterans. They will send out more information on the event. Tricia offered rides for veterans to the event if needed. CBOC is moving, narrowed down to five locations, by 2019 they should be leasing a new location and are looking for transportation!
- Tammy Rausch, Dubuque County Veterans Affairs/General Assistance – Works with Randy, usually the one who answers the phone. They have a food bank and will take referrals for homeless people in need. Also have hygiene kits available.
- Crystal Giunta, Unified Therapy – Getting ready for their Autism Run for their pediatric clinic. They have this fundraiser every April to benefit Autism, helping Dubuque Community Schools.
- Stacey Elliott, NEI3A - Working to get Group Respite for Alzheimer's and dementia patients in Delaware County set up. Pushed back start date to May. It's something that doesn't get a lot of attention in the rural areas. RTA is going to help with transportation, and Tricia is on the committee. Meeting again tomorrow. Bill shared that there is an online testing for anyone to take over the age of 50-60. They will keep the data for research purposes. Even people in 30's-40's should be aware and start healthy practices. Bill will share the quiz information with us at next TAG meeting!
- Bill Stumpf, Parent/Guardian & ICIE – Bill was in Des Moines with another organization he is a part of, meeting with a rep from Medicaid who was providing

updates. They asked for someone to meet with them next time that can speak more to long term care and transportation and billing issues. Bill is attending the Transportation Summit as well and encourages everyone to attend.

TAG Mission Statement Update Activity:

Divided up into 3 groups. Each small group shared stories about their experience with the TAG. Then each group chose a story to share with the large group, wrote it down and identified specific elements to be written on the large group sharing board. From these items listed on the sharing board, we grouped patterns and similarities, and then labeled the Big Ideas. Each small group then created their own mission statement based on the Big Ideas, wrote them on the sharing board and discussed as a large group. Following are the small group mission statements and resulting large group mission statement, which we welcome all members of the TAG to review and provide input!

Small group mission statements:

1. To provide awareness and diverse collaborative perspectives on affordable and accessible transportation services to all residents, local and rural, in Dubuque, Delaware and Jackson counties.
2. To provide collaborative and informed perspectives to support affordable, accessible and sustainable transportation to all area residents.
3. To offer input from community representatives to address transportation needs of the local community.

Large group mission statement: Community representatives providing diverse perspectives and collaborating together to problem solve transportation needs of the local communities.

Next meeting: **April 17, 2018.** Please note this is a change from the originally planned meeting in March! Tricia will send out email reminder requesting rsvp a week prior to the meeting.