

Meeting Minutes

Dubuque Transit Action Group (TAG)

Date: Tuesday Sept 3, 2024
Time: 11:00 A.M – 1:00 P.M.
Place: ECIA Zoom Meeting

TAG Members Present:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Schmitt (Chair)
<i>HCBS Dir., Hills & Dales
(Kara Huss**)
(Ashley Robins**)</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bill Stumpf (Vice Chair)
<i>Parent Advocate, ICIE/Gen Pub
(Proxy Name)</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Morris**
<i>Special Projects Coordinator,
Crescent CHC
(Shawna Domeyer**)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Carol Gebhart
<i>Exec. Dir., Opening Doors
(Heather LuGrain**)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dani Ettema
<i>Administrator, Sunnycrest Manor
(proxy Name)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Dan McDonald
<i>Dir of Existing Business, GDDC
(Nic Hockenberry**)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Ann McDonough
<i>RTA Board Chair, Dbq County
Board of Supervisors
(proxy Name)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Kelly Heysinger**
<i>Co-Owner & Therapist,
Unified Therapy
(Ann Pusateri**)
(Samantha Jay**)</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stacie Speirs
<i>Deputy Director, NEIAAA
(Stacie Speirs**)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Russ Stecklein
<i>Int. Dir., City of Dbq Jule Transit
(Jacob Ironside**)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Jenny Schrobilgen
<i>Housing Specialist, EIRHA
(Michelle Huseman**)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Kelsey Wade
<i>Social Work Supervisor,
Human Services
(Traci Gael**)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ernie
<i>Transition Facilitator,
Dubuque Community Schools
(no proxy)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Margee Woywood**
<i>Dir. Of Mission Services
Goodwill Industries
(Mary Halfhill)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Paula Paider-Licht
<i>Dir. Comm. Building & Impact,
United Way Dbq Area Tri-States
(Danielle Peterson**)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Rachel Naderman
<i>Day Program Coord.,
Area Residential Care
(proxy Name)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Schaefer
<i>Voc & Day Services Dir., ER ITP
(Robin Nims**)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant
<i>Dbq County Coord., HACAP
(Beverly Maas**)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Brenda Klepper
<i>Social Worker, Grand River MG
Tri-State Dialysis
(Kelly Kass**)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant
<i>Economic Development
(Peosta)</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jackie Rae
<i>Economic Development
(Dyersville)
(proxy, Name)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Deanna McKusker
<i>City Manager
(Cascade)
(proxy, Name)</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Colleen Pasnik
<i>Mary's Inn Maternity Home
(proxy, Name)</i> | |

Others Present: Randy Rennison, Ann Pusateri, Jason White, Rachel, Gregory Zars

Staff Present:

- Dan Fox** **Stacie Scott** **Gail Kuhl** **Jack Studier**

Call to Order

The Dubuque County TAG meeting was called to order by Michelle Schmitt from Hills & Dales at 11:01 AM. Introductions were made at this time.

Update on Summer rides:

Scott stated RTA had seen a rise in ridership for the summer months. RTA was creative in finding ways to make all requests work for rides that came through the portal for the summer months.

Scott mentioned ride requests have increased for the Fall, but RTA is having some difficulty fulfilling those requests due to driver resources on hand.

Passenger Transportation Plan (PTP) Dan/Jack

Dan Fox gave a brief update of the PTP and the involvement of the Dubuque Tag Committee. This plan covers the years 2026 – 2030. He explained the PTP is a document required by the Iowa DOT and identifies priorities and strategies to meet identified needs in the region that can lead to projects. The Tag committee will be consulted in the development and review of the plan. The goal of the plan is to improve transportation service, increase passenger awareness and coordination, develop new working partnerships and future passenger transportation investments. The Draft PTP plan will be due February 1, 2025, with a final plan due May 1, 2025. Jack Studier, followed up the discussion by presenting the survey RTA staff will be distributing to all TAG members asking for members input to identify new objectives and strategies for the future.

Studier explained the survey that will be going out for the PTP.

Schmitt asked for clarification as to whether each tag member to complete the survey individually or if one person from the agency should fill it out. Fox and Studier recommended all individuals on the Tag work together and respond with their suggestions on one survey unless different transportation needs are needed. Stumpf suggested including the disabilities counsel group be included in the survey, he'll forward to the group.

Fox suggested doing work session with the entire Tag group, all counties at the All-County Tag meeting on December 4, 2024. Schmitt agreed, and suggested still offering the online session

Other Topics Discussion

Scott suggested to all tag members to send additional individuals email addresses that would like to be added to the Tag meeting invite.

White talked about employee-based transportation and higher education transportation. University of Dubuque has flight school that transports to/from UD to the airport and many need transportation. The question was made if employee-based transportation is happening. Scott mentioned that RTA does employee based general public transportation but not in conjunction with any specific programs. Fox added information regarding RTA's contract for van pools with Enterprise.

Rachel, unified Therapy asked if there is a policy or standard amount of wait time for patient to get picked up. Scott stated RTA has a 3-minute wait time before marking a no-show. Morrison, from Crescent mentioned they tell their patients are 15 minutes earlier to allow room for delays in transportation.

Zars from NEIAAA stated their agency in doing a survey to conduct their needs assessment, link is www.surveymonkey.com/r/HMWYWP3

Pusatari asked if consumers were going to be included for Tag meetings. She stated she'd get emails from individuals and send them to Scott with RTA

Adjourn

Michelle Schmitt adjourned meeting at 11:45 AM