

Jackson County Transit Action Group (TAG)
Thursday, May 6, 2021 11am-1pm
ECIA Zoom Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Present: Stephanie Sagers (JCEA), Ted Strait (Farmers Market), Mike Steines (JC Board of Supervisors), Ronelle Clark (ONV), Angela Martensen (ITP), Michelle Huseman (EIRHA), Sally Davies (Clover Ridge), Jean Hayes (Jackson County Regional Health Center) & Tricia Wagner (RTA)

Agenda item #1: Service Improvement Project aka “Free & Reduced Rates” update

- a. School kiddos in Dbq going well
- b. Providing trips to summer camps again
- c. March 1 - Free rides to COVID clinics – total rides so far: 32 people round trip (6 in Jackson)
- d. Mike said public/city pool closing in July and could see a need for rides to the new pool at Offshore. Perhaps getting teachers to agree to drive the volunteer van during the summer for these trips. Tricia has a call with the city of Bellevue and ED in Maquoketa regarding this and will update the committee.

Agenda item #2: Iowa Developmental Disabilities Transportation Grant (Administration for Community Living Grant update), and new AARP Community Challenge Grant

- a. IDD awarded full amount requested \$15K (plus \$10K match), ITP, ARC & Hills & Dales – helping them with their group home transportation and group outings. All are finding this is helping because they are short on staff so this is filling that gap, and this is expanding their transportation opportunities as well. Staff and clients are loving it.
- b. AARP - applied for this grant and requested \$20K to extend service & include Goodwill (July 28-Nov 10)

Agenda item #3: Hillcrest Family Services; Brain Health Community Services

- a. Two-year grant to eliminate barriers to care as a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic. Contracted with RTA to provide transportation to these clients. 2-year grant. If we go through the funding, and going well, they will give us additional funding.
- b. Offering centralized scheduling, schedule appointments and ride with RTA at same time

c. Some one on one, some group trips to Consumer Advisory Group meetings

Agenda item #4: New Bus Advertising Contract with Iowa Workforce Development

a. One bus & one van only for Jackson County, one year \$400 per month. Just received signed contract. Extra revenue for RTA so a great opportunity.

Agenda item #5: United Way Funded Partner 2021-22 Renewal

a. Awarded full renewal of \$7,500 -IVRS is able to do some trips this summer now that the vaccine is available taking students to job sights and colleges to explore options upon graduation.

Agenda item #6: 6. Adding TAG Members update: Lynn Bopes: RMC, Tricia Wagner: Dialysis

a. Lynn recruited Jean Hayes with Jackson County RHC – recently moved into their new facility

b. Dialysis – Tricia will reach out

Agenda item #7: Coordination Project: AIM Selection Committee & RFP

a. RFP is done and approved by the RTA Board

b. 8-9 month contract with the Vendor selected – project completed May 31, 2022

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| Board approval | May 5 th (yesterday) |
| approval from IADOT | May 14 th |
| Posting RFP | May 17 th |
| Q & A on RFP | June 11 th |
| Receive Proposals | June 25 th |
| First round of Ranking | July 12 th to 16 th |
| Second Round | July 19 th to 23 rd (One day three presentations) |
| Board approval for consultant | August 4 th meeting (move to negotiations) |
| Negotiations need to be done | August 23 rd |
| Board approval of contract | September 1 st |

The Ranking Committee consists of five TAG members:

Carolyn Schaeffer, Community Integration Programmer, Imagine the Possibilities (Jackson County)

Michelle Schmitt, HCBS Director, Hills & Dales (Dubuque County)

Ashley Robins, HCBS Program Manager, Hills & Dales (Dubuque County)

Katie Althouse, Abbe Health/Dir Soc Services Penn Center (Delaware County)

Mike Mellon, Associate Regional Executive Director, Imagine the Possibilities (Delaware County)

Shirley Helmricks, Delaware County Supervisor

Agenda item #8: Maquoketa Farmers Market 2021 update

a. Received full funding from Community Foundation's Disaster Recovery fund, this plus balance from last season will be enough for the entire season this year! Begins May 18th, will market heavily. Ted showed us his flyer which has RTA information included (posted it everywhere), and going on Just Talk on KMAQ radio to promote. Gives to everyone he gives the food vouchers to at the food bank. Face masks will be required at market, but otherwise going back to business as usual with food and music!

Agenda item #9: Seniors Survey & Farmers Market: subcommittee update

- a. Committee: Sally Davies, Bill Stumpf (Dbq), Donna Boss & Leann Herman(Delaware)
- b. Decided to combine Seniors/Disabled/Farmers Market into one survey
- c. Format: print with prepaid return envelope
- d. Target:
 - i. Disabled living at home not in group homes, get mailing list from case managers or Denise Juhl/Jeff Lund with MCO's
 - ii. Elderly living at home and assisted living, list from post office website, provide demographics and get a mailing list based on the parameters
 - iii. Will look into the mailing list with Post Office to determine budget
- e. Jackson County Drive Through Senior Expo (Sally Davies) – Tues May 25 8-11 am at Prairie Creek Rec Center. Seniors can drive through; RTA is also available to anyone who wants to request a ride to and through the event.

Agenda item #10: Miles & Sabula update

a. Tricia had a call with Chris Fee to explain RTA services so he can better understand the TAG and his role.

a. Will circle back with Chris to connect with Lynn Parker at city clerk's office in Sabula, and find contact for Miles

Agenda item #11: You Tube Video update

a. August meeting get back to projects, like this, Miles, etc and discuss quorum, by-laws, approve finalized forms etc. – get some video footage yet this summer of the Farmers Market and maybe kids going on field trips. Ronelle suggested youth groups and high school students interested in media to help with this project. 4-H, PBJ, Honors Society, and reach out to these groups in each county. Bellevue did this with a group there, and did a

great job. Tap into the kids to help them get involved as well to appreciate their community so they come back after school, and stay. Tricia will ask Chris and Tom to help coordinate this.

Agenda item #12: Other topics for discussion: Ted brought up Bellevue has rejuvenated their farmers market, on Thursday evenings. Organized by the Chamber of Commerce, and might be on city property (Maquoketa is all private so different rules may apply). But would be great to mimic the Maquoketa Farmers Market RTA service. Would need to use a paid driver, just need to find the funding. Mike suggested reaching out to the senior living facility and taking a group of them.

- a. All agreed August meeting should be on Zoom.
- b. Tricia will send out link to the KWWL interview regarding free rides to the COVID clinics.
- c. Michelle Huseman has some new clients in Miles who inquired about RTA (she has housing openings as well so send anyone looking, her way)

Next meeting: Thursday, August 4, 2021 11 AM – 1 PM (Zoom)