

**TOMPKINS CONSOLIDATED AREA TRANSIT, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Wednesday, March 10, 2010
9:30 AM TCAT Conference Room
737 Willow Avenue, Ithaca, NY

Attendees: D. Cogan, J. Dotson, H. Dullea, D. Lieb, P. Mackesey,
F. Proto, N. Schuler, B. Wendt, K. Whang, J. Turcotte

S. Brock, R. Andrascik, J. Basile, A. Eccleston, N. Oltz,
P. Poist, D. Swartz, D. Tome, T. Wright, S. Persons/Recording Secretary

Also Attended: Greg Perreault, Patrick Jensen, Kate Supron, Suzanne VanDemark, Robin Tessell

Agenda

I. Call to Order

F. Proto called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM, and welcomed everyone to the March 10, 2010 TCAT, Inc. Special Board of Directors Meeting.

II. Board Member Items

F. Proto thanked everyone for participating in the surprise effort for B. Wendt on March 9, 2010. He stated the plan for today is that we are going to have a special board meeting to deal with the resolutions and the change in the planning committee, this was due to the snow storm that we had two weeks ago. The Board Meeting itself will be an abbreviated meeting and there will not be any committee reports those will be at the meeting March 25, 2010. After the Board Meeting is adjourned we will move into the Executive Committee Meeting and you should have received an agenda for that meeting where we will deal with the normal items of the Executive Committee with the addition of the report from the Transit Services Committee on the Cayuga Heights road change.

III. Public Comment

Greg Perreault of 138 Campbell Ave stated he emailed a letter to TCAT and he distributed it to his neighbors, this letter is already in the record so he will not read it. In the article in the paper one or two of the Board Members, either Pam Mackesey or Jennifer Dotson, stated that the process was flawed on the Cayuga Heights bus routing. He stated he lives on Campbell Avenue and the TCAT bus going through there 42 times a day is now the major contribution of traffic noise. He stated he will be doing a study with his video camera and decibel meter to prove this point. If there was any process of asking any of them for input whether they wanted traffic that belongs on Route 96 and Route 79 that is using their street as a cut through to connect new development on West Hill, nobody came to talk to them, this is a major environmental impact on their quality of life and nobody asked them anything about it. He stated he objects to the buses coming through there and there will be a petition from him and his neighbors.

Patrick Jensen principal of Cayuga Heights Elementary School stated that he was here to discuss the routing of bus 30 and the changes that occurred unannounced about a month ago. He stated they have about 350 students at the school, 6 full size buses and 6 small buses that enter the school grounds on a

daily basis. The concern he has is the added congestion of adding the route that goes by the intersection at the back of the school. He stated that basically the concern is that with the transition of the beautiful weather outside the kids will be changing to bikes and walking to school. A lot of the parents are concerned about the congestion at that intersection; he stated that the district has spent 10's of thousand's of dollars to address their traffic issues at that entrance. He stated they added parking, widened the driveway and redirected the flow of the traffic to try to improve the situation. He stated he was surprised to see the route changed without any notice to the school, he stated he was also concerned that there was not a traffic study done to look at that intersection, he stated we have hundreds of people in and out of that entrance on a daily basis, about 1/3rd of the students are driven to school. There is a large number of kids age 5-11 going through that intersection now with the TCAT buses. He stated they have such limited parking that people are starting to use the parking lot as a park and ride and there is not enough parking for the staff, so that is becoming an issue and he will take that up with the Cayuga Heights police.

Kate Supron of 125 Cayuga Park Road stated she is a trustee for the village of Cayuga Heights that being said the village board has heard from many residents the chief complaint is the public process that was put forth by TCAT to receive feedback on the route changes did not show the route change from Upland to Northway therefore people that were monitoring it did not react to the change because it was not put forth until the April 30, 2009 Additional Modifications approved by the Board. It did not give village residents or administrative officials or elected officials the opportunity to comment on it. She stated she agreed with P. Jensen that it is an awful lot of traffic for an already busy intersection in a very quiet neighborhood.

Suzanne VanDemark stated she has been to every meeting you have had since the implementation of the new transit development plan and she thinks overall it is a big success for TCAT because TCAT has only really heard from them. She thinks it was such a big success because TCAT reached out to the public with more than 16 public forums where more than 250 people attended, 450 written comments were looked at to be honored. She stated she feels that they were not given that privilege, if she had the chance to comment on that during the public comment period she would have.

Robin Tessell stated she sees the importance of public transportation and appreciates the necessity of it. However when 42 buses started coming by their block they were very surprised because they had not been informed about it. There is no sidewalk on that block, children riding bikes, people in wheelchairs from Rackers Center so the usage of our block is a little bit more dangerous now that the bus is coming through, and now that they are coming through cars are following those buses at high speeds. She stated what was a somewhat quiet neighborhood has become a much more actively used area that was residential.

F. Proto thanked everyone for their public comment and stated they are welcome to stay for the presentation.

IV. Approval of the minutes from January 28, 2010 meeting

The motion to approve the minutes from January 28, 2010 was made by D. Cogan; seconded by B. Wendt. The motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

V. Chairperson's Report

There was no Chairperson's report.

VI. General Manager's Report

There was no General Manager's report.

VII. Action Items from Staff

F. Proto stated we need to approve the change in the planning committee members; the new committee that he asked to sit included B. Wendt as a member and as the chair, with him leaving F. Proto asked D. Lieb if he would sit in on the planning committee and asked D. Cogan to chair, he stated for today he would like to get those two changes approved.

S. Brock stated that the resolution electing David Lieb would need to be approved prior to the committee changes being approved.

Consider approval of Resolution {2010-04} Election of David J. Lieb to fill unexpired portion of William E. Wendt's term. F. Proto presented Resolution {2010-04} Election of David J. Lieb.

RESOLUTION 2010-04 ELECTION OF DAVID J. LIEB TO FILL UNEXPIRED PORTION OF WILLIAM E. WENDT'S TERM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2010

WHEREAS, William E. Wendt is resigning as a Director of the Board of Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc. ("TCAT, Inc."), effective February 28, 2010, and

WHEREAS, the term of William E. Wendt's Director position is through December 31, 2010, and

WHEREAS, the bylaws of TCAT, Inc. state that a Director may be elected at a regular or special meeting of the Board to fill an unexpired term and shall hold office until the expiration of that directorship's term, and

WHEREAS, the bylaws further state that a Director elected to fill an unexpired term shall be an individual recommended by the departing Director's recommending party, and

WHEREAS, Cornell University originally recommended to the TCAT, Inc. Board that William E. Wendt be appointed as a Director, and

WHEREAS, Cornell University has recommended that David J. Lieb be elected to fill the unexpired portion of William E. Wendt's term (through December 31, 2010),

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the TCAT, Inc. Board elects David J. Lieb as a Director to fill the unexpired portion of William E. Wendt's term (from March 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010).

The resolution to approve the Election of David J. Lieb was moved by H. Dullea and seconded by N. Schuler. The resolution passed unanimously.

F. Proto presented the motion to change the planning committee members; the motion to approve the Planning Committee changes was moved by P. Mackesey and seconded by D. Cogan. The motion passed unanimously.

Consider approval of Resolution {2010-05} Appreciation of William E. Wendt. F. Proto presented Resolution {2010-05} Appreciation of William E. Wendt.

**RESOLUTION 2010-05
IN APPRECIATION OF WILLIAM E. WENDT**

The undersigned secretary of Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc. (TCAT, Inc.) does hereby certify at a meeting of the TCAT, Inc. Board of Directors on March 10, 2010, at which a quorum existed, the following resolution was unanimously approved:

WHEREAS, William E. Wendt has devoted more than 32 years to the steadfast support of public transit in and beyond Tompkins County through his positions as director of Transportation (now named Transportation and Mail Services) at Cornell University from 1977 to the present, as a member of the Operations Committee formed by Cornell University, the City of Ithaca, Tompkins County and Gadabout Transportation Services, Inc. in 1991 to oversee coordinated transit services and facilities in the Tompkins County area, and as a director of the Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit joint venture (TCAT) and its successor, TCAT, Inc., from 2000 to the present, and

WHEREAS, Bill's dedication as part of the "four B's" (to include himself, Barbara Blanchard, Bill Gray and Bill Mobbs) on the Operations Committee, his work with TCAT and TCAT, Inc., and his work with local government and municipalities, have fostered public-private cooperation and partnerships that have reduced duplication of services and optimized public transportation resources for Tompkins County and beyond, and

WHEREAS, Bill's vision and oversight has helped bring about numerous improvements, including the 1992 construction of the \$6 million Ithaca-Tompkins Transit Center building located at 737 Willow Avenue that brought under one roof and coordinated the transit operations of CU Transit, Ithaca Transit, and TOMTRAN, and

WHEREAS, Bill's work in many capacities, including his close involvement with Traffic Demand Management in the City of Ithaca, has helped ease traffic congestion and has increased public transit ridership, and

WHEREAS, Bill has served diligently as a director on the TCAT board (from 2000-2004) and the TCAT, Inc. board (from 2005-present), has served as secretary/treasurer and vice-chairperson, and has served three terms as chairperson (most recently in 2005), and

WHEREAS, Bill has served on many TCAT and TCAT, Inc. committees and has ably chaired the Executive, Transit Services and Audit committees, and

WHEREAS, Bill's persistent outreach to the New York State Department of Transportation led to increased regional public transit service in portions of Tioga and Schuyler counties, and

WHEREAS, Bill's foresight and enterprise made Cornell funds available to TCAT, Inc. for the start-up of a vanpool program in August, 2008 with no cost to TCAT, Inc., which provides commuters not on a fixed bus route an alternative cost-effective, environmentally friendly mode of transportation,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the TCAT, Inc. Board recognizes the myriad and significant contributions Bill has made to strengthen and improve TCAT, Inc. and public transportation throughout Tompkins County and beyond, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the TCAT, Inc. Board extends its sincere gratitude and appreciation to Bill for his stalwart leadership and dedicated service, and wishes him the best as he enjoys his retirement and all of his new endeavors as a national transportation consultant.

The resolution in appreciation of William E. Wendt was moved by P. Mackesey and seconded by J. Dotson.

S. Brock stated there were a few words missing in the second line of the second Whereas "on the Operations Committee TCAT and TCAT, Inc." should read "on the Operations Committee, his work with TCAT and TCAT, Inc." The words "his work with" should be added.

The resolution as amended passed unanimously.

VIII. Next meeting

F. Proto announced the next meeting date March 25, 2010 at 4:00 PM.

IX. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by H. Dullea; and seconded by N. Schuler. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 AM.