

NEPPIDAC December Board Meeting 6-8pm Meeting Minutes - Draft

Attendance - Janette Taylor, Katrina Harms, Topher Donohue - Nederland Board of Trustee Liaison, Michael O'Neill, Vera Schults-Pelham, Jared Hall - County Liaison

Mr. Hall presented a proposed budget for the board to review. His suggestion was to put money towards giving the town staff the ability to print passes at Town Hall. A brief discussion on the pros and cons showed that the advantages to doing passes in house, quicker turn-around, less administrative costs overall and less mistakes, made it the way to go. Mr. O'Neill made a motion, Ms. Schulte-Pelham seconded. Motions was approved unanimously.

A board member had a question on how the eco passes were billed and it was clarified that the district is charged per pass, not per usage.

Ms. Harms will ask Nederland for a page on their Website under boards where this board can post agendas and minutes.

Currently pass usage is not being tracked although that is expected to happen. It was supposed to have already started but RTD is behind. When tracking is implemented it will be in Nederland's best interest then to determine if a pass is still valid. Nederland will also be responsible for coming up with a process, if possible, to determine the validity of passes. This is mostly for people who move away from Nederland and continue to use their pass.

Mr. Hall provided an update on the possibility of a Boulder County-wide pass. It looks like maybe in 2016, different funding mechanisms are being looked at now for that program.

At a board members request, Mr. Hall did some research into rider and bus safety after N bus issues in the Canyon during the first couple of freezes. He contacted Bob Brewster, long-time RTD driver, who spent many years driving the N bus, for information on RTD's policies and procedures regarding chaining up and driver experience. For the most part, no rules are being broken, by drivers who don't chain up, unless the chain law is in effect. That doesn't make it better and there still is a concern about not just safety but the fact that people become stranded, sometimes for hours, and that makes ridership drop. Mr. O'Neill will look into putting together a committee to meet with RTD area representative Chuck Sisk, and present a plan that would address safety, perceived or otherwise, and make people more confident in making a decision to ride on bad days.

The Nederland Board of Trustees asked their NEPPIDAC Liaison Mr. Donohue to ask about the possibility of getting VIA, or other public transportation, on a more local level and could the NEPPIDAC help fund that. Mr. Hall expressed some of the county's disappointment in county-funded VIA, who they feel is not holding up their end of the agreement by not being very transparent regarding funding and not doing their share of advertising. If not VIA, could NEPPIDAC help fund other services like The Climb? It was decided that Mr. Donohue would go back to the Nederland BOT to get clarification and let them know of the VIA issues.

Next NEPPIDAC meeting will be March 5th, 6pm at the Carousel of Happiness.