



Sullivan County Regional Coordinating Council for Community Transportation

Meeting Minutes **Wednesday, April 24, 2013** **Community Alliance Transportation, Newport, NH**

Chair Carla Skinder called meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

Attending:

Pam Joslin
Barbara Brill
Doreen Kusselow
Carla Skinder
Brenda Burns

Approval of Minutes of March 6, 2013

Barbara moved Pam seconded motion to approve the minutes as presented. Vote Unanimous.

Member Updates

Pam Joslin spoke about the Substance Abuse Testing training that she had attended and how valuable she found it. The FTA sponsored training will help CTS to continue to meet the high standards set for all employees. She provided an update on the volunteer driver program activity through March. Demand for the services continues.

Barbara Brill spoke about the CTS upcoming funding challenges to the entire program specifically the cuts of over \$40,000 that support the volunteer driver program. Discussion followed about how to educate policymakers about the efficiencies of the program as well as the value to the community. Pathways will be contacted by Carla Skinder about their clients that use the services. Discussion followed about the need for education on transportation economics 101. Barbara is meeting with new VRH CEO next week.

Carla Skinder once again complimented CTS for their work and assistance to the Adult Day Services program that she manages. Carla stated that she raised the importance of services

to the Sullivan County community to the NH Congressional Delegation during a recent visit to Washington D.C.

It was again noted that the next meeting of the County Finance Committee needs to be attended by someone from RCC who can articulate the importance of the transportation service.

Brenda Burns noted that she has 7 days left of the Feinstein Million Dollar Changes and that she had completed the daunting task of preparing the response to the BEAS RFP. The RFP offered high rankings for those organizations that could provide all services itself. That is a challenge because of the diversity of activities among the human services providers. She was disappointed in that the State DHHS department never engaged in any dialogue about the changes that would be reflected in this year's RFP. The application made no mention of coordination with other providers and is virtually seeking a sole source.

The state is looking for a single source provider. There have been a number of applicants who might be in the running throughout the state such as NH Catholic Charities connected with Food Bank, United Way, and Easter Seals. Lutheran Social Services are also believed to be potential statewide applicants. Award Letters are slated to go out on May 6, 2013, so more will be known soon.

Discussion about the impact of the sequestration was led by Nick Toumpas at a public meeting in the North Country. Among the other general concerns about the funding stream, there are new rules now under consideration that would exclude those receiving homemaker services from eligibility for meals on wheels. A number of organizations representing seniors have filed objections to this change as homemakers are not in the home every day and many seniors receiving this assistance are unable to cook for themselves and their budgets are so small that they could not afford the additional expense.

Citizen Member Confirmation

Brenda Burns moved and Pam Joslin seconded a motion to confirm Aare Alves as a citizen member of the Sullivan County RCC. **Motion carried.**

Nominations for 2014 Leadership

As Carla Skinder has served for 3 years as chair, she will be stepping down. Vice Chair Pat Kinne will now be working in Keene and unable to participate in the RCC for the region.

Helena Koss has served as secretary but has been unable to make many of the meetings. The RCC will be looking for volunteers to serve in leadership positions for the coming year. Barbara Brill stated her willingness to serve as vice chair. A slate of officers will have to be determined before the June meeting.

Other Business

Pat Crocker presented a draft letter that the SCC has is asking all RCC's to send to the transportation providers listed in the directory that presents information about the requirements of the new Medicaid managed care brokers to be eligible to work with them. The members reviewed the letter and agreed to have it sent out by Pat.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, 2013 at Community Alliance of Human Services Transportation, Newport.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM

DRAFT