

Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc.
Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2020
1:00pm via Zoom

Attendees

Board Members: Deborah Dawson; Dan Klein; Laura Lewis; Gary Stewart; Denise Thompson

Excused: Bridgette Brady; Jennifer Dotson; Ducson Nguyen; Frank Proto

Staff Attendees: Susan Brock; Pamela Torelli; Scot Vanderpool

Call to Order:

Vice Chair D. Klein called the meeting to order at 1:01pm.

Action Item:

Resolution 2020-08 Extend Temporary Suspension of All Fares in Response to COVID-19 was presented. D. Dawson made a motion to approve; L. Lewis seconded. Resolution 2020-08 passed with a unanimous vote of 5-0-0 as follows:

RESOLUTION 2020 – 08
EXTEND TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF ALL FARES
IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

WHEREAS, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 has caused drastic changes in daily lives, and over the past months Tompkins Consolidated Area Transit, Inc. (TCAT) ridership numbers have decreased drastically, and

WHEREAS, because of COVID-19's spread, Governor Cuomo has declared a State disaster emergency for all of New York State, and the Tompkins County Administrator has declared a State of Emergency for Tompkins County, and

WHEREAS, while many businesses are closed and events and social gatherings are no longer allowed due to the Governor's Executive Orders, people still need transit to get to workplaces that are allowed to be open, obtain medical and social services, shop for groceries, and check in on the well-being of loved ones, and

WHEREAS, TCAT's priority is to protect its workforce while providing an essential level of service, and

WHEREAS, the temporary suspension of the collection of fares on buses avoids bus operator/customer contact that might otherwise occur through customers using the fare-box and asking for transfer slips, and

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the TCAT Board approved the temporary suspension of all fares on all routes from March 20, 2020 through April 9, 2020, and on April 6, 2020, the TCAT Board extended the temporary suspension of fares through May 23, 2020; the Board's April 6 resolution states the Board will reevaluate fare suspension prior to May

23 to determine if the temporary suspension will continue or if fares will be reinstated, and

WHEREAS, while Tompkins County will soon begin the first phase of reopening under the New York Forward program, TCAT staff anticipate that the need for social distancing on buses will continue for at least a number of weeks and recommend that the Board extend the temporary suspension of fares through June 30, 2020, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the TCAT Board of Directors approves an extension of the temporary suspension of all fares on all routes through June 30, 2020, and be it further

RESOLVED, the Board will reevaluate fare suspension prior to June 30, 2020 to determine if the temporary suspension will continue or if there will be a reinstatement of fares.

Adopted by the TCAT Board of Directors on this the 15th day of May, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 1:03pm.

Next meeting:

The next meeting will be May 28, 2020

Minutes respectfully submitted by Pamela Torelli, Recording Secretary, May 28, 2020.