

Transportation Meeting
March 24, 2011
3:30-5:00

Members Present: Tina Chapman, Doug Carnrick, Chris Huck, Elery Keene, Jeanne Siviski, Jim Wood

1. Update on *Kennebec Explorer*
 - Began Feb. 2
 - Ridership to Augusta is good.
 - Jeanne: Facebook postings seem to indicate that more marketing is needed.
 - Hoping to get funding for another bus to add to the available service

Action Item:

Linda: include this on April events www.kennebecexplorer.com

2. Marketing for *Kennebec Explorer*
 - Will be participating in Women's Wellness—April 2
 - Doug suggested participating at Business-to-Business. (April 6)
 - Waterville Earth Day—April 23
 - Chris suggested offering incentives to riders.
 - Jeanne recommended having people sign a pledge to use public transportation.
 - Commute Another Way Week—will be offering free bus rides
 - Will be connecting with Summer Reading program at Waterville Public Library

Action Items:

Jim: check with John Reuthe about Business-to-Business

Jim: check with Shannon Haines about Earth Day

3. Chris (KVCOG) is working on a corridor transportation plan. He distributed a "Lower Kennebec Corridor Planning Strategies & Recommendations."
4. On Monday, Ken Young & Chris met with Jack Sutton who is concerned that NE Passenger Railway is doing a study about expanding in western Maine and wondered why little interest has been focused on mid-Maine.
5. Linda had an inquiry from a Colby student about bike paths.
 - Chris summarized a meeting he attended with MDOT personnel.
 - There doesn't seem to be money allocated for bike paths.
 - A discussion followed about MDOT funds and plans.
 - Doug wondered what SMMC should do to voice these concerns.
 - Jim wondered if there is any way to report these concerns to the Waterville City Council.

6. Jim was contacted by consultant of MDOT interested in increased public input about the biennial operations plan. Jim asked that all team members try to attend.

Action Item:

Jim: send Linda the date, so she can alert the SMMC membership.

7. Jim commended Tina for including request for funding for public transportation in United Way's application. Tina wants to assure her clients especially in rural areas have access to services. A discussion followed about the region encompassed by SMMC.

The next meeting will be **Thursday, April 28 at 3:30 at KVCOG.**