

Transportation
March 22, 2012
3:30-5:00

Members Present: Doug Carnrick, Chris Huck, Elery Keene, Penny Valliancourt, Alex Wheelright, Jim Wood, Linda Woods

Doug complimented Jim on his recent talk at the Rotary. The Rotary's community service group will assisting with posting bus schedules and bus signs.

For the third time in four months, *Kennebec Explorer* set a record for use: 5955 rides in February. Jim sees a correlation between the increase in riders and increase in gas prices. He is starting to see new demographics, such as younger riders. He is hoping current legislation will continue to provide funding for public transportation.

Jim repeated his hope to expand services to include longer hours that would connect better with Colby students' needs.

Action Item:

Jim: Bring the power point that the Colby students did

Jim: Bring ridership history of KV Transit system

Penny reported there are multiple grants available through Federal Transit Authority for funding for buses.

Linda told of a team member's hope that SMMC & the Chamber purchase the discontinued GoMaine vans and continue service for state workers. Jim & Penny reported that private companies are interested in continuing the van pool. The *Kennebec Explorer's* hours will expand. This might help workers.

Jim met with Somerset County town managers & others who are interested in comprehensive public transit in & around Skowhegan. This will connect to Fairfield which connects to Waterville & Augusta.

DOT's New Freedom program has funds that could be connected to the bicycle program for people with disabilities. Hope to get this out by fall. Penny encourages Waterville to submit a proposal.

Penny is changing focus but will continue her connection to this team. She will continue to work on the Park & Ride.

Action Items:

Linda: Invite Scott Workman (Bike Coalition) to present at the next meeting

Linda: Tell Peter & Joel that Scott will be presenting

Alex told about the KVO gathering and thanked Jim for speaking. A pilot program Seek Elderly Alone and Renew Courage and Hope (SEARCH) might pilot here. (It is currently in Lewiston.) It connects well with KVCAP.

Alex hopes members will attend KVO's Summer Action Meeting on June 7 from 5:30 to 7:00. The location will be announced. Inviting area businesses to hear these stories of seniors' needs for transportation

Doug summarized the series of articles about SMMC activities that the Board has approved. These will be published in *The Sentinel* and/or *The Town Line*. Doug has volunteered to write the article about this team.

Chris said another planner generated info about the elderly living in rural area. He is planning to write about this for KVCOG's newsletter and could use it for the above.

Action Item:

Chris: send the article you are writing to Marilyn Canavan & Bonnie Sammons (or to Linda who will forward it)

Elery narrated that Tim Downing spoke at Rotary about using piggy back for delivery of his products that are manufactured in Vassalboro.

Action Items:

Linda: Contact Tim about doing a presentation for the Education Team

Elery: Frame questions about piggy backing & present these to Maria Fuentes

Linda needs help on April 11 from 2 to 7 for Business to Business & on April 14 from 11 to 3 selling raffle tickets at Marden's. If you are available to help, contact Linda. She invited everyone to Waterville's Earth Day on April 28 from 10 to 3.

The next meeting will be **Thursday, April 26 at 3:30 at KVCOG.**