

Transportation Team
April 25, 2013
4:00-5:00

Members Present: Chris Huck, Alex Wheelwright, Jim Wood, Linda Woods

Jim & Alex met recently with Representative Sharon Treat, who is sponsoring a bill that would support funding for public transit by developing and funding more comprehensive public transportation. The public hearing is Friday, May 3 at 9:00. A broad range of public transit groups will be coming together. Jim is testifying on behalf of KVCAP. He sees this as an economic development tool. It would be helpful if he could say that SMMC Transportation Team supports this, and it was endorsed by those present. Alex is gathering people to support this bill.

Action Item:

Linda: Ask Mike H to put supporting this bill on the agenda for team leaders' meeting

Jim: Bring copies of bill to team leaders' meeting

Ross was contacted by a rider for as part of the GoMaine car pool.

Chris spoke about the availability of Tiger grants. These are used for innovation, efficiency & sustainability for public transit from the feds

Action Item:

Jim: look into a Tiger grant

Alex invited people to the Kennebec Valley Organization Convention on May 20 at Notre Dame Church 5:30 to 7:00. They are looking into what issues to pursue.

Chris reported that the Old Canada Rd Scenic Byway needs to update its management plan and is facing various impediments. He is looking at another corridor plan in Somerset County.

Chris stated that interesting things were presented at Waterville's comprehensive planning meeting.

Jim summarized ridership on the *Kennebec Explorer* has leveled off, but 15% increase over last year.

Plans to expand when the Alford Center for Health opens in November

Expanding service hours to accommodate staff 6AM to 8PM proposed; adding new route to Riverside Drive in Augusta; currently running Mondays & Thursdays in Winslow; hoping to expand. Lesson— build a convenient & timely system, and people will use it. Waiting to see what appropriations will be. Public transit works in municipalities that support it financially.

We discussed the effect the lack of public transit has on the elderly.

Events of Interest

National Trails Day is June 1. Peter Garrett and members of the Kennebec Messalonskee Trails will be leading walks on the newly donated land in Winslow. If interested, meet at 9:30 at the Winslow Elementary School

Active Communities Conference on May 7 Active Communities Conference at the Waterville Opera House

If you are interested in attending, it is important to register **now** through the Opera House web site.

FMI: <http://www.healthymainepartnerships.org/panp/training.aspx>
at the Waterville Opera House

The next meeting will be **Thursday, May 23 at 4:00 at KVCOG.**