

Transportation Advisory Board

Minutes of Regular Meeting

January 25, 2011, 5:30pm
Agricultural Building Auditorium
45 South St, Pittsboro



Voting Members Present

Claire Kane, Vice-Chair
Dale Chodorow
David Bordsen
Delonda Alexander
Faythe Canson Clark, Chair
Mary Bastin
Philip Bors
Robin Emerson
Willa Thompson

Non-Voting Members Present

Amber Wagner, Chatham
Transit Network
Brian Bock, Chatham County
Larry Cheek, Siler City
Michael Fiocco, Pittsboro

Others Present

Dee Reid, Pittsboro Parks & Rec
and Chatham Parks & Rec
Advisory Boards
Jeffrey Starkweather, self
Brendan Merithew, NCDOT
Scott Walston, NCDOT
Rupal Desai, NCDOT
Sarah Lee, NCDOT
Paul Black, TARPO
Melissa Guilbeau, staff

- 1 1. Purpose and Agenda for today's meeting
- 2 Faythe Canson Clark called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.
- 3 Ms. Clark noted a change in the order of agenda items, moving item #3 to just after item #6, and
- 4 inserting a space for public comment following item #2.

Action Items

- 5 2. Approval of Minutes from December 7, 2010 Regular Meeting
- 6 Claire Kane moved to approve December's meeting minutes. Dale Chodorow seconded the motion.
- 7 The minutes were approved.
- 8 Public Comment
- 9 Ms. Clark asked if anyone from the public wished to make comment. Dee Reid indicated that she
- 10 wished to speak regarding plans for public transit in Chatham County. Ms. Clark asked if there were
- 11 any others, and upon seeing none, asked Ms. Reid to proceed.
- 12 Ms. Reid stated that she is concerned about public transit. She goes to Chapel Hill every day. She
- 13 cited data from the draft TAB Strategic Plan regarding transportation modes and commute patterns.
- 14 She stated that she wants rational, convenient, flexible and affordable transit in the region, and that
- 15 the PX route was a good start but needed better marketing. She mentioned Chatham Transit
- 16 Network or getting riders [to UNC's CAP lot on 15-501 at Old Lystra] to take Chapel Hill Transit's CCX
- 17 route. She asked Commissioner Bock how the public, riders and the TAB will be included in transit
- 18 planning.

19 Mr. Bock responded that he wants to use the TAB to identify needs and solutions related to
20 transportation, and that he wants to consider getting riders to the CCX route. Ms. Wagner stated
21 that CTN needs to analyze ridership data, and that the Cross County route does not meet UNC
22 commute timing needs and could use more marketing.

23 Ms. Reid asked about how to get single-occupant vehicle drivers to use alternative transportation.
24 Ms. Wagner and Ms. Kane discussed UNC's CAP program. Ms. Reid asked about Triangle Transit's
25 plans. Ms. Kane mentioned their Short Range Transit Plan that shows a Chapel Hill to Pittsboro
26 service, but had questions about the possibility of a local match. Ms. Reid reiterated the
27 opportunity to sync service to CHT's CCX route. Ms. Wagner stated that the Cross County route's
28 schedule could be tightened up.

29 **Information & Discussion**

30 4. Presentation on a Chatham County Comprehensive Transportation Plan, by Brendan 31 Merithew, NCDOT Transportation Planning Branch

32 Brendan Merithew gave a presentation on NCDOT's Comprehensive Transportation Plans, stating
33 that NCDOT was ready to begin the process in Chatham County. This presentation is available on
34 the board's website. He noted that NCDOT will present this information to the County Board of
35 Commissioners at their February 21, 2011 meeting, at which time they will be asked whether they
36 wish to begin the CTP process with NCDOT.

37 Jeffrey Starkweather asked about the US 64 Corridor Study in relation to the CTP. Scott Walston
38 stated that NCDOT has to have the Strategic Highway Corridors reflected in the CTP; that the CTP
39 will not get into design details but will specify the type of facility, its general location and perhaps
40 interchanges. Mr. Bors stated that the Strategic Highway Plan is not multi-modal and asked what
41 would happen if non-highway recommendations conflicted with the Strategic Highway Plan. Mr.
42 Walston stated that the Strategic Highway Plan is about meeting mobility goals.

43 Larry Cheek asked if it was a requirement to have one county-wide plan that covered all
44 municipalities. Mr. Walston replied that was not a requirement, but that it was a better use of
45 resources and was better for regional planning. He stated that Chatham is the number one
46 statewide priority for updating its CTP. Ms. Clark stated that the TAB is an existing avenue for
47 developing the CTP. Mr. Starkweather and Mr. Bors asked about the process and next steps to
48 develop the CTP. Mr. Merithew stated that NCDOT will present to the Board of Commissioners in
49 February and that they will decide whether to proceed with the CTP. The towns can then each
50 decide whether to participate in the CTP.

51 Melissa Guilbeau asked how the CTP process would involve DCHC MPO. Mr. Walston stated that the
52 MPO was in the process of resuming the CTP for their area and that the remainder of their process
53 could be combined with this one. At a minimum, an MPO representative will participate in a
54 Chatham County CTP. Mr. Merithew stated that if the towns choose to not participate and/or adopt
55 the final CTP, their respective area could be "grayed" out of the final CTP maps.

56 Michael Fiocco asked when corridor protection occurs. Mr. Walston stated that an adopted CTP has
57 the backing of state law for local governments to perform corridor protection. Paul Black stated
58 that a developer will usually perform a study to determine the precise location of a corridor.

59 5. Discussion with Commissioner Bock

60 Ms. Clark asked if anyone had any questions for Commissioner Bock at this time. Phil Bors asked
61 about the relationship between the TAB and the Board of Commissioners and if Mr. Bock had any
62 specific thoughts related to transportation that he wanted to share. Mr. Bock stated that he had
63 given no thought to changing the TAB, and that advisory boards should in fact be advisory and give
64 advice to the Commissioners. Mr. Bors asked how the Board would like to receive advice. Mr. Bock
65 suggested coming before the Board, perhaps on a regular basis. Ms. Kane asked if the Board of
66 Commissioners would ever notify the TAB of upcoming transportation decisions and ask for their
67 advice on specific items. Mr. Bock stated that the Board probably could. Ms. Clark stated that cross
68 communication helps the process.

69 6. Update from the Strategic Plan Subcommittee

70 Mr. Bors gave an update on the Strategic Plan, briefly going through the draft that was distributed at
71 the meeting. (The draft is available on the board's website.) He asked for and received initial
72 feedback. He stated that he members can send additional feedback in the next couple of weeks,
73 and that he will have a final draft completed in time to be distributed to the TAB a couple of weeks
74 in advance of the next TAB meeting, with the intention that the TAB will vote on the final draft at
75 the February meeting.

76 3. Election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

77 Ms. Clark asked in what order the TAB would like to take the elections. Mr. Bors recommended
78 beginning with Secretary.

79 Ms. Clark called for nominations for Secretary. After discussion, Mary Bastin nominated David
80 Bordsen for Secretary. Mr. Bors seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

81 Ms. Clark called for nominations for Vice-Chair. After discussion, Ms. Kane nominated Phil Bors.
82 Robin Emerson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

83 Ms. Clark called for nominations for Chair. Ms. Bastin nominated Faythe Canson Clark. Willa
84 Thompson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

85 Ms. Clark thanked Ms. Kane for her service as Vice-Chair and nominated her to serve on the
86 Executive Committee. Mr. Bors seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Chodorow
87 indicated that he will continue to serve on the Executive Committee.

88 7. Updates from Staff and/or the Executive Committee

89 Ms. Guilbeau gave an update on the Chatham County Bike Plan; the upcoming DCHC MPO MTIP
90 public hearing; the recent Board of Commissioner decision regarding Chapel Hill Transit's PX route;
91 Chatham Transit Network's Community Transportation Service Plan; and, County policy issues
92 related to fire access roads and road turning radii.

93 There were no updates from the Executive Committee.

94 8. Announcements and New Business

95 There were no announcements or new business.

96 9. Adjourn

97 Mr. Bors moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bordsen seconded. Meeting was adjourned at
98 7:10pm.

99 Next Meeting: February 22, 2011 at 5:30pm in the Agricultural Building Auditorium in Pittsboro