



RUTLAND REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

OLDER ADULTS & PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2024, 11:00 AM

MEETING DETAILS

Virtual: [Teams Meeting](#), ID: 239 820 319 213, Pass: CpxDkJ Call: 1-802-440-1368, ID: 598 674 540#

In-Person: Rutland Regional Planning Commission Offices, 2nd Floor, 16 Evelyn St, Rutland, VT 05701

ATTENDANCE

(X = in person) (V = virtual attendance)

ORGANIZATION	NAME	
Advocacy Resources Community Rutland Area (ARC)	Diane Drake	V
Bridges & Beyond (B&B)	Betty Spooner	
Castleton Community Seniors (CCS)	Laurie Knauer	V
Marble Valley Regional Transit District (MVRTD)	Sarah LaBrecque	V
	Kristy Bloomer	V
One-2-One/RSVP (O-2-O/RSVP)	Maryesa White	V
	Tammy Brown	X
Southwestern Vermont Council on Aging (SVCOA)	Courtney Anderson	
Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans)	Dan Currier	V

Staff: Ethan Pepin, Transportation Planner - Rutland Regional Planning Commission

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting called to order at 11:05 AM.

2. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 11TH AGENDA

Motion by Brown to approve the agenda. Second by Drake. Approved by voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MAY 8TH MINUTES

Motion by Bloomer to approve the minutes. Second by Butterfield. Approved by voice vote.

4. OPEN TO PUBLIC

No public Comments



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5. BUDGET UPDATE

Pepin gave an overview of the current budget figures, noting that they had just finished the first quarter numbers for State Fiscal Year 25. Pepin noted that at this point in the year, the target for spending was 25% and although in previous years the program has been underspent, currently all partners were either at or above the 25% spending target. Brown stated that One-2-One was at exactly 25%. Drake spoke about how ARC's self-advocate groups have been doing training which has increased spending. Currier asked about the trip types SVCOA had been sending to MVRTD. Bloomer stated she would run the numbers and get back to Currier, but added that overall, the program had been allowing more social/personal trips in the past and that medical trips would have to be the priority this year given the current budget. Pepin asked if MVRTD approved or denied trips SVCOA sent. Bloomer stated they approved them. Currier added that if SVCOA had to stop sending social/personal trips it would only be fair to apply that to all partners. White asked for clarification about whether that applied to One-2-One. Currier clarified that it did, noting that the program only had limited funds and had to prioritize the core medical trips. Currier noted that the program was over budget last year and that the funds were meant to serve all of Rutland County, not just one partner's clients. Brown expressed frustration at this. Pepin stated that while the Committee had moved to quarterly meetings, we reserved the right to have monthly meetings if it was deemed necessary. Pepin noted that given the current budget issues, he believed it necessary that the committee meet next month. White asked about Anderson's process for sending trips. Bloomer stated that she could not speak for Anderson. Brown suggested that they pick up the conversation at the next meeting.

6. VEGGIE VAN GO

Pepin mentioned that he had spoken with staff at RRMC about providing access to the Veggie Van Go program through some kind of transit service. Pepin asked about committee member's thoughts and if they were currently sending people to this program. Knauer stated that she was already sending people to the program in Castleton. Brown stated that they already sent a few clients to the program. Currier stated that Green Mountain Community Express does this and could be a potential model to follow and wouldn't have to tap the OA&D funding. Currier also noted that trips to food was not a social/personal trip, but counted under food access/shopping under the current types and would qualify under the new trip type of wellness which was currently proposed in the draft program guidance.

7. PARTNER UPDATES

Brown had nothing else to report. Knauer noted that rides were up and some more clients had been added. Drake said that ARC was continuing to grow and had some problems with drivers going to the wrong towns. Drake further stated that she was concerned with the current budget and not being able to continue important transportation for her program. Pepin asked about availability for a January meeting, stating that we would follow up with a scheduler email after the meeting. Currier stated that the new program guidance was being finalized this week and there was still time to



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comment on the current draft before it is adopted. Bloomer shared that a new Executive Director had been hired for The Bus which was exciting and needed, especially since The Bus has been unable to hire a new Finance Manager in the interim. Pepin gave an update about how The Bus had moved forward with a consolidation of two City bus routes, the South & South Extension, as well as a modification of the Hospital Route. Pepin said the changes were actually quite minimal since there was a fair degree of overlap with the existing routes, so very few stops would lose service. White asked if this freed up resources for more rural routes. Currier stated that it likely would not. Pepin noted that while it would be ideal to serve everyone, with limited resources, The Bus needs to focus on serving the most people in the way that is most efficient for the overall systems.

8. ADJOURN

Adjourned at 11:51 AM.

Respectively submitted by Ethan Pepin