

PARTA
PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES

PARTA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
2000 SUMMIT ROAD
KENT, OHIO 44240

January 26, 2017

Board Members Present:

Jerry Beach
Dominic Bellino, Vice President
Rick Bissler, President
Marge Bjerregaard
Jeff Childers

Brian Gray
David Gynn
Virginia Harris
Pete Kenworthy
Timothy Lissan

R. T. Mansfield, TPO
Jeremy Moldvay
Frank Vitale
Karen Wise

Staff Present:

Claudia Amrhein
Marcia Fletcher

Frank Hairston
Kelly Jurisch

William Nome, Legal Counsel
Brian Trautman

Members Not Present:

Richard Brockett (excused)

Others Present:

Connie Collins
Herman Counts
George Danhires
Jerry Fiala

Don Goodhart
Pat Goodhart
Melissa Habowski
Ron Habowski

Tiffany Hawley
John Mason
Olga Mason
Eddie H. Renfroe

CALL TO ORDER

President Rick Bissler welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. He asked Mr. Nome to give the oath of office to the new Board member.

Mr. William Nome asked Mr. Frank Vitale to rise, raise his right hand, and repeat after him:

I, Frank Vitale, do hereby swear or affirm, that I will honestly, faithfully and impartially perform the duties of my office, and that I will not be interested, directly or indirectly, in any contract let by the Portage Area Regional Transportation Authority.

After the oath of office, Mr. Bissler welcomed Mr. Vitale and thanked him for his offer to serve. An oral roll call followed and a quorum was present.

Mr. Bissler said the minutes from the December 15, 2016, Board meeting were distributed and he entertained a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. R. T. Mansfield made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ms.

Marge Bjerregaard seconded the motion. Motion to approve the minutes, as presented, passed unanimously.

GUEST COMMUNICATIONS

None.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Bissler said the General Manager's report was distributed and asked Ms. Amrhein if she would like to highlight anything from her report.

Ms. Amrhein thanked everyone for coming and said several of the guests at tonight's meeting were involved in the making of the veterans' video that will be shown later tonight. There is one item of business, which is approval of the Title VI Policy and Program. This policy is required to be submitted to the FTA by the end of the month. She asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Vitale asked if there have been issues in the past with Title VI compliance.

Ms. Amrhein said no, there have not been issues in the past. The FTA requires proof that *PARTA* is being proactive regarding its Title VI Policy.

Hearing no further discussion, Mr. Bissler said none of the committees met. He said the Finance Committee usually meets monthly, but did not meet in January due to year end reports.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee did not meet.

OPERATIONS/PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee did not meet.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee did not meet.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee did not meet.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

This committee did not meet.

PUBLIC RECORDS COMMISSION REPORT

This committee did not meet.

OLD BUSINESS

None heard.

NEW BUSINESS

Moving on to New Business, Mr. Bissler said the PARTA Board and Committee Meetings Public Attendance and Participation Guidelines were distributed in the Board packet. He asked if there were any questions.

Hearing none, Mr. Bissler entertained a motion to approve the PARTA Board and Committee Meetings Public Attendance and Participation Guidelines. Mr. Timothy Lissan made a motion, which was seconded by Ms. Virginia Harris.

Mr. Bissler then moved on to the two (2) resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS:

Mr. Bissler said the first resolution is the adoption of the Title VI Policy and Program.

#2017-01-01: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO ADOPT PARTA'S TITLE VI POLICY/PROGRAM.

Mr. Bissler asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Marge Bjerregaard made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. David Gynn.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

| | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Jeremy Moldvay - Yes | Marge Bjerregaard - Yes | Virginia Harris - Yes |
| Pete Kenworthy - Yes | Dominic Bellino - Yes | Timothy Lissan - Yes |
| Jeff Childers - Yes | Jerry Beach - Yes | Brian Gray - Yes |
| Karen Wise - Yes | David Gynn - Yes | Rick Bissler - Yes |
| R. T. Mansfield - Yes | Frank Vitale - Yes | |

Mr. Bissler moved on to Resolution #2017-01-02.

#2017-01-02: A RESOLUTION BY THE PORTAGE AREA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PARTA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES HONORING HERMAN COUNTS, GEORGE DANHIRES, TIFFANY HAWLEY, JOHN MASON, AND EDDIE RENFROE FOR PARTICIPATING IN INTERVIEWS USED TO CREATE A VIDEO TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE KENT CENTRAL GATEWAY VETERANS MEMORIAL.

Mr. Bissler asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he entertained a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. R. T. Mansfield made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Brian Gray.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Jeff Childers - Yes | Karen Wise - Yes | David Gynn - Yes |
| Marge Bjerregaard - Yes | Jerry Beach - Yes | Virginia Harris - Yes |
| Frank Vitale - Yes | Pete Kenworthy - Yes | Brian Gray - Yes |
| Dominic Bellino - Yes | Timothy Lissan - Yes | Rick Bissler - Yes |
| Jeremy Moldvay - Yes | R. T. Mansfield - Yes | |

Ms. Amrhein said PARTA held its first Veterans Day Ceremony in 2013, the year the Kent Central Gateway opened. The memorial was commissioned as part of the construction of the Gateway facility to meet an FTA requirement to expend a certain percentage of the grant funding on artwork. A community panel recommended a veterans' memorial as the theme, issued a call for proposals, and awarded the project to Kent resident and veteran George Danhires. Bricks engraved in honor or memory of veterans are planted around the structure

and we continue to add bricks. The annual ceremony, memorial statue, and engraved bricks have become important to people who come every year. We work with the KSU Hotel to offer lunch for veterans before the ceremony at 2 p.m. The idea of creating a video was a way to capture Mr. Danhire's description of the memorial itself and thoughts from some local veterans, especially those from WWII. Ms. Amrhein said the five (5) veterans present at tonight's meeting participated in personal interviews, which were used by Connie Collins to create the video that will be shown. The video will be used to raise awareness of the Kent Central Gateway Veterans Memorial and the opportunity to purchase bricks for the walk way, which, in turn, will support the memorial itself and hopefully also support additional veteran interviews and videos.

The video created by Connie Collins of Essential Story was then shown.

Following the video, Mr. Bissler and Ms. Amrhein presented each of the veterans with a framed copy of the resolution, along with their personal interview on video and the final video created to raise awareness.

Mr. Bissler then introduced Mr. Ron Habowski who wanted to say a few words.

Mr. Habowski said he initially got involved with the Veterans Memorial at the Kent Central Gateway by purchasing a brick. Last summer, he attended his 50th class reunion. As part of that reunion, the class decided to purchase bricks for the veterans from their graduating class. He said the class has purchased about 43 bricks to date and is still in the process of tracking down more veterans from their graduating class. The experience, he said, has been wonderful. He challenged everyone to go back to their groups, whether it be Kiwanis, Jaycees, the Portage County Bar Association, or any other organization, and determine who the veterans are and purchase bricks for them. He concluded by thanking the Board for allowing him to speak.

Mr. Bissler thanked Mr. Habowski and said there is no reason for an executive session. He then asked Mr. Hairston if he would like to add anything.

Mr. Hairston said he would like to take a picture of the Board members and guests for the newspaper and the PARTA Press after the meeting. He said the FTA was very proud of what PARTA has done with the Veterans Memorial.

Ms. Amrhein recognized Connie Collins and thanked her for interviewing the veterans and telling their stories in the video that was shown tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bissler thanked everyone for coming and entertained a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Dominic Bellino made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Virginia Harris seconded the motion. **Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Marcia Fletcher
Executive Assistant