

**SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT
BART ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE**

Minutes

November 13, 2019

1. Self-Introductions of Members, Staff, and Guests:

Members:

Alan Smith (2nd Vice Chairperson)
Catherine Callahan - ABSENT
Chris Mullin
Clarence Fischer
Don Queen
Emily Witkin - ABSENT
Esperanza Diaz-Alvarez - ABSENT
Gerry Newell (Vice Chairperson)
Hale Zukas - ABSENT
Herb Hastings
Janet Abelson
Janice Armigo Brown
Larry Bunn - ABSENT
Mussie Gebre
Randall Glock (Chairperson)
Roland Wong
Valerie Buell

BART Staff Present:

Bob Franklin
Elena Van Loo

Directors (s), Speakers, Staff, and Guests of The Public:

Robert Raburn (BART Board of Directors)
Denise McDonald (Staff)
Rachel Factor (Staff)
Wahid Amiri (Staff)
Olugbenga Olayomi (Staff)
Christina Lasson (Guest)
Dennis Gassaway (Guest)

Marjorie (Marji) Mc Wee (Guest)
Anita Ortega (Guest)
Jerry Grace (Guest)

2. Public Comments

Dennis Gassaway expressed there is construction at the Bay Fair BART Station. He stated he had a difficult time navigating the station and was wondering if there are doing elevator enclosure project or if there is other construction going on.

Randall Glock asked Bob Franklin and Elena Van Loo if there is elevator enclosure project going on at the Bay Fair BART Station. Elena Van Loo will look into and report back to members.

3. Approval of September 26, 2019 draft Minutes

Agenda item to be moved to December 11, 2019 BATF agenda due to agenda title was incorrect. Agenda item should have shown “Approval of October 24, 2019 draft minutes.” Agenda item was not able to be changed due to meeting was within 72 hours and can not change under the Brown Act Law.

4. 19th Street BART Station Modernization

Wahid Amiri, Denise McDonald, Olugbenga Olayomi gave a PowerPoint presentation on the item. Members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had after the presentation.

A long discussion was held regarding to the new modernization layout of the 19th Street BART Station. Members wanted clarification of the new elevator location that will be put in. Staff clarified there will be eventually two elevators, one on the North side and one on the South side of the station.

Wahid Amiri let members know there will be installing glass barriers to enhance safety and security instead of metal barriers. Alan Smith expressed there may be concerns about the metal gate barriers versus glass barriers. He was concerned with the glass barriers it may be difficult to see from a distance, especially if you have low vision.

Alan Smith stated he uses the stairway from concourse level to go to the platform level located at the middle of the station. He commented due to budget issues, maintenance is not maintaining the stripes on the upper part of the stairs and being visually impaired, finding that first step is really critically important.

Randall Glock asked presenters when the 19th Street BART station has gone through the final, approved layout, he would like another presentation. He also asked staff if PowerPoint presentation can be emailed to members.

5. How to Sign Up for Regional Transit Connection (RTC)

Elena Van Loo gave a PowerPoint presentation on the item. Members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had after the presentation.

Valerie Buell asked if you can only get the Medical Eligibility form online. She stated she went to the Lake Merritt BART Station to pick up the Medical Eligibility form. Elena Van Loo verified you can also pick up Medical Eligibility form at the Lake Merritt BART Station at the BART Customer Services Counter or other Customer Services that provide RTC processing.

Chris Mullin stated some of the explanation you came up with and some of the explanations you gave was the ones I struggled with and I wanted to add you took away the complications with your presentation. So, I really appreciate this.

Jerry Grace stated Senior and Youth Clipper cards can be processed at certain Customer Service Centers and Elena Van Loo thanked Jerry Grace for his comment. Elena Van Loo added that it is best to go under 511.org or call Clipper 800 number to get the list of places where you can process your Senior Clipper card or Youth Clipper card.

Members requested PowerPoint to be emailed to them. Elena Van Loo will follow through on their request.

6. Safe Routes to BART Grant Program

Rachel Factor gave a PowerPoint presentation on the item. Members were allowed to ask questions and/or share any concerns they had after the presentation.

Rachael Factor shared Station Access Survey is done every five years to figure how to spend the money for better access to all BART Stations.

Valerie Buell asked Rachel Factor how BART grant funding program that highlights access improvements is being shared to the public because she thinks it is important that the public is aware of this.

Randall Glock suggested having another presentation to update the grant program sometime in 2020 and also asked if the PowerPoint presentation can be forwarded to the members.

Janet Abelson was concerned how the funding will be contributed for the access improvements.

7. BATF New Member Nomination (s)

Randall Glock introduced Anita Ortega and Marjorie McWee who were interested in becoming the newest BATF member. He let members know there is one opening for a new BATF member and we are here to nominate a new member.

Randall Glock asked Anita Ortega and Marjorie McWee if they wish speak why they want to be on the BATF Task Force.

Both Anita Ortega and Marjorie McWee gave a short speech each why they would be a great asset as a BATF member.

Elena Van Loo and Bob Franklin counted the votes for Anita Ortega or Marjorie McWee:

Anita Ortega

2 (two) yeses, 7 (seven) noes, one (1) abstention

Margorie McWee

9 (nine) yeses, 0 (zero) noes, 1 (one) abstention

Majority of the votes were for Marjorie McWee. Elena Van Loo let members know the next step will go to the BART Board of Directors for the final approval.

8. Member Announcements

Alan Smith recommended a book to the BATF members and the public “Accessible America: A History of Disability Design,” by Bess Williamson, published earlier this year, 2019. He mentioned in the book there’s a history about Ed Roberts and our own member, Hale Zukas.

Valerie Buell shared the next Regional Advisory Committee meeting for the State Council on developmental of disabilities will be on December 4, 2019.

Janice Brown stated she saw an article about a miniature horse at a BART Station and the article mentioned the miniature horse was a service animal.

Herb Hastings shared he will be presenting about the RTC cards and Clipper cards at the Alameda County Public Health building located at 1000 Broadway, Oakland, CA 94607 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm on December 11, 2019.

9. Staff Announcements

Robert Rayburn thanked members that attended the Montgomery BART Station elevator enclosure project dedication. He added this project not helps us deal with dangers but, it also provides improved access between BART and Muni in San Francisco.

Elena Van Loo informed members she will email detailed information regarding to the BATF Holiday Reception happening at the BART Administration building on Lakeside Drive on December 11, 2019.

Elena Van Loo let members know General Manager, Robert (Bob) Powers and Deputy, Michael Jones, will be attending December 11, 2019 BATF meeting to introduce themselves and will be attending the BATF Holiday Reception.

10. Chairperson Announcements

Randall Glock shared Montgomery BART Station Platform faregate at the elevator is now working.

Randall Glock shared all four Downtown San Francisco BART Stations now have elevator attendants at, Civic Center/UN Plaza BART Station, Powell Street BART Station, Montgomery BART Station, and Embarcadero BART Station.

Randall Glock reminded BATF members and public BATF meetings will be back to regular schedule starting on January 23, 2020 at the East Bay Paratransit first floor conference room at, 1750 Broadway, Oakland.

Alan Smith asked staff when will there be an open house at Montgomery BART Station to look at the platform faregate. Elena Van Loo will look into scheduling with BART Staff.

Randall Glock would like to see if Bay Fair BART Station is working on elevator enclosure project or any projects at the station.

11. Future Agenda Topics – Members Suggest Topics

- Bay Fair BART elevator enclosure projects

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned to the next regularly scheduled meeting for **December 11, 2019, at 2:00 pm at BART Administration Building, 300 Lakeshore Drive, Floor 19, Room #1950, Oakland, CA 94612.**

[The meeting adjourned at 3:59 pm]