



Board Minutes

Meeting Time: 20 August, 2012, 6PM

Location:

Knox Presbyterian Church
806 W. Knox Avenue
Spokane, WA 99205

Attendees

Board: Don Cain, Dick Raymond, KC Traver, Phyllis Holmes, Rich Bryant
Friends: Trudy Raymond

Agenda Notes

1. Chair's Call to Order (D. Cain) at 6:09 pm

- Administrative Items

Don Cain relayed the contents of a letter that he received from a Mr. Jerome Greene expressing interest in producing a promotional video related to his transportation / tourism business. He is soliciting InlandRail.org interest due to a perceived common interest. He would use the DVD/video as a promotional item for events such as the upcoming National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP) convention to be held in Spokane this fall.

KC Traver added to the discussion by offering to share the NTHP convention promotional video that was produced locally in advance of the conference. It is very complimentary of Spokane and the surrounding region. He indicated that he would post it to the InlandRail.org face book page so that all could view it.

- "In the News" Items

Phyllis Holmes shared information related to a reported 54% increase in the usage of Amtrak trains in the Wash D.C. / New York corridor since 2001. Additionally, there is a 75% ridership share on the Boston / New York train system compared to other common modes, including air travel. The reasons indicated are the amenities on trains, reduced delays at stations compared to airports, a more relaxing atmosphere, etc. Phyllis also mentioned there is a \$151 Billion Amtrak supplemental funding proposal before Congress that is being opposed by conservatives who favor privatization of the passenger rail system. Ref: www.nytimes.com/2012/08/16/business/hassles-of-air-travel...

2. Vice President's Report: (D. Raymond)
The website has experienced 19,099 contact hits from inception to date with 243 occurring in the month since our last regular meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report: (N. Nickoloff)
No report was provided due to the Treasurer's absence.

4. Secretary's Report: (K.C. Traver)
 - Meeting Minutes from previous Board Meeting
The minutes were reviewed with no changes and they were approved unanimously. The consensus of the members present indicated they liked the new format with the minutes embedded in the published agenda for reference of discussion items. It was suggested by K.C. Traver that informational items discussed at our previous meeting have their internet URL references posted on the InlandRail.org website for review by the general membership.

 - *K.C. received a notice of renewal for the Inland Empire Rail Transit Association annual filing with the Washington State Corporations Division. He will provide the notice to Nick Nickoloff for action to be accompanied by payment of a \$10.00 filing fee. (Ref: Non-Profit registration UBI #602774283 via www.sos.wa.gov/corps)*

5. Old Business
 - County commissioners transportation survey (carry over item)
KC Traver will provide the President with updated contact information for solicitation of a response to a single question for political candidates competing in the upcoming elections. The question will be "Would you advocate for regional rail transit, now or in the future, during your current campaign?" Additional comments would be welcome and a non-response will be posted as a negative on the InlandRail.org website. The proposed question was approved by unanimous motion put forth by Dick Raymond and seconded by Phyllis Holmes.

6. New Business
 - Near term transportation planning, funding options, opinions
K.C. Traver and Dick Raymond have applied for participation in the upcoming STA planning efforts for four separately proposed high performance transit networks. K.C. applied for participation in the Spokane - Liberty Lake route and Dick applied for participation in the Spokane - Cheney route. Others were encouraged to similarly apply.

7. Public Relations and Outreach (Trudy Raymond)
Trudy expressed regret that the organization did not participate in Liberty Lake Days or Unity in the Community this year, unlike past years. On a positive note, she reported that the InlandRail.org facebook page has 143 "friends" and appears to be growing. This is a relatively new endeavor at outreach by the organization.

8. Comments by General Membership

None provided.

8. Comments by Board Members

K.C. asked about the absence of board member Larry Schwartz. Don offered to contact Larry to inquire about his continued interest in InlandRail.org.

Phyllis shared an article from the New York Times reporting on a proposed "Grand Park" redevelopment of downtown Los Angeles.

Adjourn: Next Scheduled Meeting: 17 September, Traver Farm, Spangle

Attendees should dress "farm casual" and arrive for the proposed potluck anytime after 3:00 pm. We will plan on eating around 5:30 pm to allow for greater flexibility for those coming from work. K.C. will distribute directions for travel from Spokane to the location at 410 W. Cameron Rd.