**SEPTA Citizen Advisory Committee**

**October 29, 2013 Plenary Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Maurice Baynard (part), Dana Bowles, Heather Clark, Philip Dawson, Elizabeth Gabor, Laura Hanes, Cameron Kline, Norman S. Marcus, Julio Nieves, Patricia Peterson, Aissia Richardson, Robin Robinowitz, Thaddeus Robinson, Patricia Russell, Laurie-Ellen Shumaker, Esha Thornton, Emily Van Vuga

Members Absent: Eric Cheung, Glenn Cuff, Michelle Freeman, David L. Hackett, Walter Jeffers, William J. Judge Sr, Roderick Powell, Curtis Wilkerson

Guests: Joe Casey, SEPTA GM (part); Patricia Ellis, MOTU (part); Andy Sharpe, Jeff Kessler (YAC); Charles Gardner, SEPTA Liaison

**Call to order**
Maurice Baynard called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m.

**Meeting Minutes**
Minutes from the previous meeting, September 24, were approved with revisions.

**Outstand Performance Award**
Patricia Ellis from the Mayor’s Office of Transportation and Utilities presented an award for outstanding performance to Aissia Richardson for 5 years of service on the CAC, including the past two years as president.

**Joe Casey, SEPTA General Manager**
Joe Casey updated the group on recent accomplishments related to customer service. Starting today, WiFi is available at 69th Street Transportation Center; Regional Rail on-time performance has improved – consistently at 94-96% for the last couple of months. Regarding funding, the “doomsday plan” would become a reality under the current funding scenario. If SEPTA receives funding, regional rail lines will be preserved. The funding issue is related to capital, not operating funds. Adequate funding is needed to maintain the system and to keep it safe. NPT needs marketing outreach to help customers transition to the new system; employees must be educated first.

Mr. Casey addressed several questions by CAC members. Liz Gabor asked about SEPTA property sales. She will send Mr. Casey information about properties related to TOD and SEPTA. Esha Thornton asked about station sponsorship or a program similar to adopt-a-highway. Mr. Casey noted that Cynwyd is an adopted station. A University transit pass is being developed with a goal to be workable for SEPTA and students. SEPTA and Drexel are increasing their partnership. Philadelphia area schools do not offer transportation planning degrees.

Replacement of aging equipment will not occur at once in order to distribute the cost over time. Priorities include, AEM-7, trolley, Regional Rail cars (in 5 years; start planning in 2 years) and Broad Street cars (new cars are not in the 10 year plan, but they will probably need to be overhauled).

Four viaducts need replacement.
Rob Wonderling and Pam McCormick from the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce are engaged and active in advocating for transportation funding.

**Appointing Agency Follow-up**
The Philadelphia Caucus met last month.
Madeleine Dean, Montgomery County rep., supports transit funding.
Transit Subcommittee Reports
The Transit reviewed reporting issues by CAC members and concluded that members need to send comments to Customer Service more frequently. CAC members are expected to send comments to Customer Service twice per month.

Regional Rail Subcommittee Report
The subcommittee is finalizing an online passenger survey and has received feedback from Jim Fox and Media and Marketing.

YAC Report
Jeff Kessler noted that with Veritas, comments are sent directly into SEPTA’s system. Other communication methods must be entered manually. YAC uses Google hangout; James from Customer Service will discuss social media options at the next YAC meeting.
YAC is planning a daytrip to Manayunk – SEPTA Adventures – as a way to encourage individuals to take a first trip on SEPTA and to encourage those who don’t use SEPTA regularly on the weekend.
YAC intends to use school magazines or newspapers for outreach.

Old Business
- The CAC/RUN Conference was held on October 17; attendees traveled from as far away as Virginia and Maine. Approximately 25 people attended. Mike Liberi discussed SEPTA service for the US Open and Harry Garforth (Amtrak) discussed high speed rail. The 2014 RUN conference will be held in Philadelphia. The CAC should prepare a proposal for the RUN Conference and one for APTA.
- Cameron Kline and Maurice Baynard are working on producing a CAC card that includes information about the committee.

Next Meeting
The next Plenary meeting is scheduled for November 26.

Adjourn
The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Clark, CAC Secretary