

Bedford/Franklin Regional Rail Initiative
August 21, 2015,
Bedford Public Library, Moneta Branch
Minutes

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kolakowski at 10:35 AM
- II. Roll Call:
 - A. Present: Charles Kolakowski, Brian McCrodden, Steve Stevick, James Vest, David Phelps, Jerry Craig, Bill Piatt, Vicki Gardner, Susan Martin, Curry Martin, Bob Camicia,
 - B. Not Present: Michael Burnette, Becky Wuergler
- III. Agenda: The Agenda was approved by acclamation as presented.
- IV. Minutes of the Prior Meeting (August 7, 2015): MSC'd McCrodden/Piatt - The minutes were approved as presented.
- V. Discussion:
 - A. White Paper: Brian McCrodden distributed the latest draft without the exhibits. He reported that inclusion of all of the exhibits was delayed because some have yet to be produced and others were extremely large and could not be sent by email. Options for the presentation of exhibits were discussed. McCrodden, Piatt and Stevick were to continue coordinating exhibit presentation. Once ready, the White Paper should be withheld from the public until it is delivered in hard copy to State officials (see below).
 - B. Meeting With State Officials:
 1. The White Paper, when ready, should be presented to Secretary of Transportation Layne, DRPT Director Mitchell, and DRPT Rail Transportation Programs Administrator Jeremy Latimer and a meeting arranged to discuss its contents. Bill Piatt is to contact Jennifer Mitchell as a follow-up to his conversation with Governor McAuliffe.
 2. Senator Newman should be presented with hard copy and informed of BFRR's plans to approach state officials (re:

abovel-I:B:1), highlighting that this “is not a huge project” in terms of construction but is very important to Bedford/Franklin Region.

3. Commonwealth Transportation Board: Shannon Valentine, a member of CTB, has emphasized the importance of meeting with local CTB representatives, specifically Court Rosen, the at-large member in Roanoke and William Fralin of Salem. The need to meet with those representatives was agreed by the group to be a high priority, noting that the DRPT Rail Subcommittee is meeting on August 25, 2015 in Richmond (note: Valentine and Rosen are members of the Rail Subcommittee). The Town of Bedford, as host of the station, should be the main contact for such meetings.

4. Declaration of Elected Representatives: Because of his positions as Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, the name of Steve Newman was withdrawn from the remaining names of the Declaration of Elected Candidates, leaving State Senators William Stanley and John Edwards and Congressmen Bob Goodlatte and Robert Hurt. Securing their signatures should proceed as soon as possible.

B. Meeting with Boards of Supervisors and Town Council: The group agreed to hold off on presentations to these bodies until after the meeting with state officials. Members of these bodies should receive a copy of the White Paper with exhibits shortly after they are presented to the state officials.

VI. Report:

A. Model Station: David Phelps reported that the model station is nearing completion, but that the materials cost may cost \$250. Stevick gave a personal assurance those costs would be covered.

C. Bedford Chamber of Commerce Business Expo: Susan Martin noted that the September 24 event includes plans for a booth for the train station project providing an opportunities to gather additional signatures.

VII Next Meeting: The group agreed to meet on September 10 (note Thursday, not Friday) at the Moneta Branch of the Bedford Library beginning at 10:30 AM.

VIII. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM