**South East Regional Coordinating Council on Transportation**

**February 18, 2015**

**Attendee list**

Anne Bisson, Joanne Laferrara, Tanja Ryden, Bill Shine, Julie Boren, Jane DiBiasio, Malanie Ramos, Cindy Curran, Allan Slavin, Rick Bornstein, Rachel Fichtenbaum, Sarah Alden, Angie Azevedo, Mary Basilone, Mike Moran

**Welcome & Past Meeting Notes**

* New members, please send your contact info to Mary at mbasilone@gatra.org
* The group accepted the January meeting notes, with one change:
	+ Help First should be Health First

**Alternative Meeting Sites**

* Bristol Elder Services – cannot accommodate a monthly meeting (could do the occasional meeting now and then)
* Health First – Mike Moran will check
* Catholic Social Services – Julie Boren will ask Nancy Lawson
* CCBC – Anne Bisson will check
* Unemployment Center – parking is terrible
* St. Anthony’s Parish – Julie Boren will ask Nancy Lawson
* Independence Associates – Brockton is not central enough
* Sarah Alden – will check if she can host in her conference room (21 Spring St. in Taunton)

**Meeting Schedule**

* We will meet the second Tuesday of every month from 9 to 11 AM
* Next meeting March 10, location TBD

**Outreach Subcommittee**

* The subcommittee has been busy working on a narrative and budget for a MassDOT Community Transit Grant Program application
* We are proposing to do outreach and education around transportation options to medical appointments in 4 cities: Attleboro, Fall River, New Bedford, and Taunton
* The need for education & outreach emerged from the medical forum we held in November, as well as surveys & the Coordinated Human Service Transportation Plan
* We are proposing to hire a consultant to work with us to design a toolkit for healthcare facilities & agencies on how to help people access transportation options. We’ll also do 2 outreach events in each city
* Part of the outreach will be educating people about Ride Match and how to use it. We will also educate individuals and agencies about travel instruction available in the region. This project will also be an opportunity to educate riders about wait times and shared rides and therefore help set appropriate expectations.
* SRTA will apply on SERCCOT’s behalf
* The application is due March 2
* We have to provide a 20% match, but it can be in-kind
* We can ask organizations to donate a little for the match. If you have a connection to a big healthcare system or another organization that might be willing to contribute a few thousand dollars if we get the grant, please let Julie know
	+ Alan will reach out to Cape Cod Five and South Coast Hospitals
	+ Anne will reach out to Morton Hospital
	+ Julie will talk to a couple banks in New Bedford
	+ Mary will talk to the printer about in-kind printing
* Interns – if we get interns, we can count their time as in-kind
	+ Joanne said we can get marketing interns from the Plymouth area
	+ Alan has connections to a federal work-study program at UMass Dartmouth and MBA students at Bridgewater State
	+ Mary has connections to Wheaton College
	+ We could ask Joe about BCC

**Wareham Coordination**

* Angie shared a google spreadsheet she has created
	+ Vehicle coordination tab – tracking organizations that own vehicles and might be willing to engage in vehicle share with other organizations
	+ Service coordination tab – larger transportation providers that won’t be interested in vehicle share but might be open to coordinating service
* Angie will reach out to Anne McCrillis at Coastline Elder Services and Patrick Hamilton at Old Colony Elder Services
* Top needs
	+ The group discussed the need for transportation from Wareham to New Bedford since all social services are now located in New Bedford
	+ Alan shared that the town is working to get a station at Merchant Square.
	+ Top Ride Match searches originating in Wareham are Wareham to Wareham, Wareham to New Bedford, and Wareham to Brockton
* We will add churches – some churches have vehicles
	+ Then we can divide up the list & each call one church and add it into the spreadsheet
	+ Nancy Lawson is already doing an assessment of churches & what services they offer so Julie will check with Nancy in case she already has this information
* Town of Wareham owns its own school bus – Jeff Tetro is Director of Transportation for the school district
* Wareham VSO does not have a vehicle
* Nursing homes may have vehicles
	+ Angie will reach out
* Small livery services – these are not in Ride Match because many are unlicensed. However, at this point we are just researching, not sharing this information for referrals, so we do not have to have the same standard as Ride Match.
	+ We can draft a write-up of suggested standards (CORI, RMV check, insurance, licensing)
	+ MassMobility researched insurance options for volunteer driver programs: <http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/commissions-and-initiatives/hst/annual-reports.html#insurance>
	+ We can do outreach to livery companies too, though small ones may not be interested in coordinating. Nonprofits are more likely to be interested because coordination can directly help them meet their needs.
	+ COAs often know which livery services are good for seniors
* The group brainstormed some questions to ask when we make calls:
	+ How many vehicles do you have
	+ Types of vehicles
	+ Are vehicles accessible
	+ Service area
	+ Professional or volunteer drivers
	+ Fare
	+ Hours of service
	+ Would you be interested in coordination
* Next step: Julie will organize outreach to churches & livery and will draft a script for us to use when we make calls
* We should reach out to the Wareham Town Government before we go too far on this project
	+ Alan is the town’s representative on GATRA’s board
* We will try to do the phone calls before our next meeting (March 10)

**Other Discussion**

* Tanja announced that the HST Office is working with MassHealth to clarify language in transportation eligibility letters about shared rides. HST is also working with the brokers to clarify language in their welcome letters about shared rides and wait times. This will help set and manage consumer expectations. HST took this on in response to a suggestion from SERCCOT.
* Angie added a SERCCOT page to the SRTA website: <http://www.srtabus.com/serccot>
	+ This page links to GATRA’s page: <http://www.gatra.org/index.php/contact-us/rcc-meetings/>
* Mary will add contact info for Julie and Angie to the GATRA SERCCOT webpage