



**September 18th, 2024
Open Session Minutes**

**Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority (GATRA)
Advisory Board Meeting
Taunton City Hall
Silver City Conference Room, 2nd Floor
15 Summer Street, Taunton, MA 02780
and
Zoom**

1. Open Session Convenes

Mayor O'Connell called the meeting to order at 1:01PM. A roll call attendance was taken. The following board members were present:

Attleboro (5.55), Mayor Cathleen DeSimone (remote)
Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil (remote)
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly (remote)
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell (remote)
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore (remote)
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo (remote)
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad (remote)
Hanover (3.66), Tammy Murray (remote)
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich (remote)
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas (remote)
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond (remote)
Medway (1.99), Courtney Riley (remote)
North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito (remote)

Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson
Plymouth (5.48), Derek Brindisi (remote)
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson (remote)
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros (remote)-
arrived at 1:07PM
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle (remote)
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes (remote)-
arrived at 1:10PM
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria (remote)
Taunton (5.64), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin (remote)
Wrentham (1.95), Janet Angelico (remote)
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond (remote)

The following board members were absent:

Berkley (1.40), Tabitha McCrohan
Foxborough (2.01), Marc Craig
Lakeville (1.61), Lori Fahey
Middleboro (2.85), Mark Germain

Norfolk (2.28), Karen Edwards
Norton (2.15), Alec Rich
Pembroke (2.59), Marie Vitale

Also present:

Mary Ellen DeFrias, Dan Burgess, Kylie Araujo

2. June 26, 2024 Open Session Minutes

10 Oak Street, 2nd Floor, Taunton, MA 02780-3950
Phone (508) 823-8828 • Fax (508) 824-3474 • TDD (508) 824-7439



Mayor O’Connell, Taunton reminded the Board that even if they were not present at the June 26, 2024 meeting, they could still vote on them if they reviewed them.

A motion was made and 2nd to approve the June 26, 2024 Open Session Minutes. A roll call vote was taken.

Attleboro (5.55), Mayor Cathleen DeSimone- aye
Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo- aye
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye
Hanover (3.66), Tammy Murray- aye
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- abstain
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye
Medway (1.99), Courtney Riley- aye

North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye
Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye
Plymouth (5.48), Derek Brindisi- aye
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye
Taunton (5.64), Mayor Shaunna O’Connell- aye
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye
Wrentham (1.95), Janet Angelico- aye
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond- aye

Motion to approve June 26, 2024 Open Session Minutes passed.

3. Administrator Report, Civil Rights Report, & Financial Report

Mary Ellen DeFrias reviewed the Administrator Report. She reviewed that there is a shortage of drivers in the industry, but GATRA is actively working to hire drivers. Ridership continues to trend in positive direction. It is not yet at pre-Covid levels, but it is trending that way. GATRA is partnering with Southeastern Regional Transit Authority (SRTA) and Brockton Area Transit (BAT) on an interconnectivity initiative to connect transportation between Taunton, Brockton, and Fall River. This initiative will help connect the majority of Bristol County. New electric buses are out on the road, and by end of 2024, GATRA will have nine (9) total electric buses in use. The new Wareham Maintenance Facility is on track. Mary Ellen noted that the town has been good to work with and that foundation plans are set to begin in late September.

Mary Ellen reminded Councils on Aging (COAs) that operate GATRA services that it would be helpful to receive timely monthly financial reporting in order to be more current with GATRA financial reporting to the Board.

There is no change in the Civil Rights Report. GATRA is in compliance and the Triennial findings are still under review by the federal government.

Dan Burgess reviewed the financial report. He noted that presentation has changed slightly and that Brokerage financials are at bottom of the report separated out from the rest of the GATRA



budget. There is only one month of the current FY to report, but based on that reporting, the budget projections are on track.

There were no questions or comments from the Board on any of the above-mentioned reports.

A motion was made and 2nd to approve the above-stated reports. A roll call vote was taken.

Attleboro (5.55), Mayor Cathleen DeSimone- aye
Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo- aye
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye
Hanover (3.66), Tammy Murray- aye
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- abstain
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye
Medway (1.99), Courtney Riley- aye
North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye

Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye
Plymouth (5.48), Derek Brindisi- aye
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye
Taunton (5.64), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell- aye
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye
Wrentham (1.95), Janet Angelico- aye
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond- aye

Motion to approve the above-stated reports passed.

4. GATRA Advisory Board Vice Chair

Mayor O'Connell, Taunton thanked Alan Slavin, Wareham for stepping up to the Vice Chair position. She noted that Alan's knowledge is an asset to the Board and that he will still be on the Board as the Wareham Designee. Mayor DeSimone, Attleboro volunteered to be the new Vice Chair. Mayor O'Connell asked for a motion to approve Mayor DeSimone as Vice Chair and thanked Mayor DeSimone for volunteering.

A motion was made and 2nd to appoint Mayor Cathleen DeSimone, Attleboro as GATRA Advisory Board Vice Chair. A roll call vote was taken.

Attleboro (5.55), Mayor Cathleen DeSimone- aye
Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo- aye
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye
Hanover (3.66), Tammy Murray- aye

Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- abstain
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye
Medway (1.99), Courtney Riley- aye
North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye
Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye
Plymouth (5.48), Derek Brindisi- aye
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye

10 Oak Street, 2nd Floor, Taunton, MA 02780-3950

Phone (508) 823-8828 • Fax (508) 824-3474 • TDD (508) 824-7439



Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye
Taunton (5.64), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell-
aye

Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye
Wrentham (1.95), Janet Angelico- aye
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond-
aye

Motion to appoint Mayor DeSimone as Vice Chair passed.

5. Weighted Vote Certification

Dan Burgess reviewed that the weighted vote was being updated based on FY23 Local Assessments. This will be happening again in the fall once the FY24 audit is completed and the report is issued. There were no questions or comments from the Board.

A motion was made and 2nd to approve the weighted vote based on FY23 Assessments. A roll call vote was taken.

Attleboro (5.55), Mayor Cathleen
DeSimone- aye
Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo- aye
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye
Hanover (3.66), Tammy Murray- aye
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- abstain
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye
Medway (1.99), Courtney Riley- aye
North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye

Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye
Plymouth (5.48), Derek Brindisi- aye
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye
Taunton (5.64), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell-
aye
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye
Wrentham (1.95), Janet Angelico- aye
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond-
aye

Motion to approve weighted vote passed.

6. Audit & Finance Committee Confirmation

Mayor Oconnell reviewed the current committee members below still willing to serve. No other nominations or questions were brought by the Board.

Josie Dutil, Bellingham
Greg Guimond, Marshfield
Antonio Morabito, North Attleboro
Brittney Faria, Seekonk
Mayor O'Connell, Taunton



A motion was made and 2nd to approve the Audit & Finance Committee as outlined above. A roll call vote was taken.

Attleboro (5.55), Mayor Cathleen DeSimone- aye
Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo- aye
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye
Hanover (3.66), Tammy Murray- aye
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- abstain
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye
Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye
Medway (1.99), Courtney Riley- aye
North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye

Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye
Plymouth (5.48), Derek Brindisi- aye
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye
Taunton (5.64), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell- aye
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye
Wrentham (1.95), Janet Angelico- aye
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond- aye

Motion to approve the Audit & Finance Committee as outlined above passed.

7. Board Orientation

Mary Ellen DeFrias conducted the annual Advisory Board Orientation by reviewing a slide deck with an overview of GATRA, GATRA services, revenue sources, Board overview, Board member role, and Board member responsibilities. The Board members also received an Orientation Manual with more detailed information to refer to. Orientation is conducted to ensure Board members have a clear understanding of GATRA and the Advisory Board.

There were no questions or comments from the Board.

8. Adjournment

A motion was made and 2nd to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken.

Attleboro (5.55), Mayor Cathleen DeSimone- aye
Bellingham (2.65), Josie Dutil- aye
Carver (1.63), Connie Kelly- aye
Dighton (1.16), Anabela Powell- aye
Duxbury (2.30), Joanne Moore- aye
Franklin (2.39), Cobi Frongillo- aye
Halifax (1.00), Cody Haddad- aye
Hanover (3.66), Tammy Murray- aye
Kingston (1.99), Patti Waitkevich- aye
Mansfield (2.87), Kevin Dumas- aye

Marshfield (3.11), Greg Guimond- aye
Medway (1.99), Courtney Riley- aye
North Attleboro (3.33), Tony Morabito- aye
Plainville (1.30), Brenda Watkinson- aye
Plymouth (5.48), Derek Brindisi- aye
Plympton (1.00), Colleen Thompson- aye
Raynham (2.09), Erin Medeiros- aye
Rehoboth (1.21), Elizabeth Doyle- aye
Scituate (2.37), Linda Hayes- aye
Seekonk (2.15), Brittney Faria- aye

10 Oak Street, 2nd Floor, Taunton, MA 02780-3950
Phone (508) 823-8828 • Fax (508) 824-3474 • TDD (508) 824-7439



Taunton (5.64), Mayor Shaunna O'Connell-
aye
Wareham (3.28), Alan Slavin- aye

Wrentham (1.95), Janet Angelico- aye
ADA Advocate (1.00), Michael Raymond-
aye

Motion to adjourn the meeting passed.

Open session adjourned at 1:35PM.

Documents & Exhibits Discussed in this Meeting:

- 9.18.24 GATRA Advisory Board Meeting Agenda
- 6.26.24 GATRA Advisory Board Open Session Minutes
- September 2024 Administrator's Report
- September 2024 Civil Rights Report
- September 2024 Financial Report
- Weighted Vote- FY23 Assessment
- FY25 GATRA Advisory Board Orientation PowerPoint Slides
- FY25 GATRA Advisory Board Orientation Manual

10 Oak Street, 2nd Floor, Taunton, MA 02780-3950
Phone (508) 823-8828 • Fax (508) 824-3474 • TDD (508) 824-7439