



Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2019

A meeting of the Metro-North Railroad Commuter Council (MNRCC) was convened at 12:00 noon on, Thursday, October 17, 2019 in the 16th floor conference room 16.07 at 2 Broadway, New York, NY 10004.

Member Attendance

Randolph Glucksman (Chair)	Present
Orrin Getz (Vice Chair)	Present
Francena Amparo	Absent
Richard Cataggio	Absent
Francis T. Corcoran	Phone

Staff Attendance

Lisa Daglian (Executive Director)	Present
Ellyn Shannon (Associate Director)	Present
Bradley Brashears (Planning Manager)	Present
Sheila Binesh (Transportation Planner)	Absent
Deborah Morrison (Administrative Assistant)	Absent

Non-member Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Richard Schulman	Concerned Citizen

Approval of Agenda for October 17, 2019 meeting.

Approval of Minutes for July 18, 2019 meeting.

Chair's Report attached.

Board Report:

- Discussion of the high cost of Access-a-Ride paratransit service at the Board briefing.
 - A monthly limit of E-hail usage was mentioned.
 - Some mentioned switching users to Medicaid but the agency is not allowed to ask users that information. Perhaps there is a different way to get that information.
 - Randy asked about how much the City contributes and their reimbursement rate to the MTA.
- Discussion of debarment rules
 - Look into current contracts and how many are/were competitive bids
 - Does this need a legislative fix or a fix within the MTA?
 - The goal is to reduce construction costs and create accountability

Staff report

Member update

This council has five appointees awaiting approval. Lisa has asked the appointments office for the step by step process. Some were sent up last year and earlier this year.

Meeting materials should be sent to the appointees to stay in the loop of Council activities. Action Item.

We are asking elected officials to streamline the appointment process because we really need to fill our longstanding Council vacancies.

Action Item: Send Randy the five names awaiting approval.

Suffern Station

We met with MTA Chair Pat Foye and Metro-North senior management regarding Suffern station ownership and accessibility. There is no New York accessible station in the area.

Penn Access

Bradley attended an event on the progress of the Penn Access with Janno Lieber and Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. It was a partnership with Westchester and the Bronx.

New Business

Randy has asked the MNR to add signage at the White Plains station that shows the arrival times of the next trains upon entering the platform.

Overcrowding on the New Haven Line

Potential Council member Walter Zulig raised overcrowding issues on Wednesday's matinee trains due to the lack of additional train cars.

MNRCC MINUTES

3

Service alternatives

There was an incident on West of Hudson service involving a car accident on the tracks and 2 deaths. Several NJ Transit trains were cancelled and there was replacement bus service to Nanuet. **Action Item: Randy will send information on who ran the bus service.**

The LIRR produced a brochure of alternative service routes in the case of service disruptions. This could also be used for inclement weather during winter. Metro-North should also produce brochures for both sides of the Hudson. **Action Item: Send letter to Metro-North to develop a pamphlet on ways riders can continue their journeys during service disruptions.** In addition, employees should be sent out to stations to direct riders on how to reach their destinations during incidents.

Adjourned

Action Items

- Meeting materials should be sent to the appointees to stay in the loop of Council activities.
- Send Randy the five names awaiting Council approval.
- Randy will send information on who ran the West of Hudson replacement bus service to Nanuet when the accident occurred.
- Send letter to Metro-North to create pamphlets on service alternatives by station for both sides of the Hudson during service disruptions.

Video links: [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Daglian
Executive Director