



Meeting Minutes of February 20, 2019

A meeting of the Metro-North Railroad Commuter Council (MNRCC) was convened at 12:00 noon February 20, 2019 in the 11th Floor Conference Room (11-C), Metro-North Offices - Graybar Building, 420 Lexington Ave. New York, NY.

Member Attendance

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

Staff Attendance

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

Non-member Attendance

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

***Approval of Agenda for February 20, 2019 meeting.
Approval of Minutes for January 23, 2019 meeting.***

Chair's Report attached.

Points raised during the Chair's Report:

- Details on Governor's proposal for Board member term limits and the connection to appointing elected official.
- Testimony at upcoming Committee & Board meetings on fare hikes
- Hopeful that full WOH service will be returned in the second quarter
- Lisa testified before the NY State Senate majority hearing and will join Randy at the Hudson Valley hearing.
- State Senators are interested in the specifics of the congestion pricing plan.
- Transit Advocacy day in Albany on Feb 26 with NYPTA.

Old Business

- Membership update: Lisa to get update from the Governor's appointment office 3/1.
 - Appoints from Westchester county: Walter Zullig has not yet been sent up.

New Business

- Suffern station issues:
 - The Suffern station should be transferred from NJ Transit to the MTA as it is in New York State and should be made accessible. Commuters are frightened to use the station late at night because it is deserted and has a lot of problems. Susan Metzger agreed that something should be done about the station.
 - Orrin to raise it in his testimony at the MNR Committee meeting and encourage MTA legal to get provide clarity to the Committee of how it could happen.
 - Action Item: Prepare a MNRCC letter to MTA Council urging the purchase/transfer of the Suffern station to the MTA. Need more details from Orrin for letter.
 - Governor has said he wants the Woodbury Commons station built and Senator Skoufis supports a Woodbury Common station. Maybe a public-private partnership should be considered.

West of Hudson (20 Year Needs and Capital Program)

- MNR service and the fleet should be improved with the mid-Hudson yard development.
- A pedestrian path between Nanuet train station and shops at Nanuet would be beneficial. It would need to be on the MNR right of way.
- Metro-North's locomotives are in bad shape – need new ones. Metro-North only has 65 Comet V cars, if they are going to expand service they need some additional equipment. NJ Transit is buying Bombardier multi-level cars. MNR needs to buy the same equipment. Possibly look at purchase for LIRR too.

East of Hudson (20 Year Needs and Capital Program)

- MNR is buying new dual mode locomotives for the northern territory.

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- F. Corcoran says new White Plains station is user-friendly w/ appealing aesthetic and good new lighting.
- MNR should look at doing a joint dual mode locomotive purchase with the LIRR.
- It's time to buy a non-dual mode locomotive – Siemens Chargers are successful locomotives, used around the country, 4400 HP able to pull longer trains and good for the environment.

- Schedules
 - There is a new Hudson Link schedule, but no information is put out anywhere in GCT etc. It's not produced by MNR. Transdev, is the private company who puts out the schedules. MNRCC can ask to get the schedules in major stations. It would also be helpful to have Transport of Rockland schedules in the White Plains station.

- Ronnie Hakim presented a \$350 million savings plan that would include breaking down some silos between the agencies.

- *Access to Stuart Airport Access*
 - Improve bus service and maintain right of way for future rail service. There may be an open house on Feb 26, Lisa will check with Brian Sterman.

- *Gateway Tunnel*
 - Randy met with the rotating chair and vice chair of Gateway Development Corporation regarding funding and the importance of the tunnels. NJ is contributing funding.

NJ Transit Board meetings are moved to 6 pm, but the public participation portion comes after the board goes into executive session. There is no rider rep. on the NJ Board.

Adjourned

Action Items

- Contact Governor's appointment office on March 1 for updates.
- Council letter urging Suffern station be transferred to the MTA.
- Share talking points & key aspects for meeting with Senator Carlucci
- Request meeting with Brian Sterman about the Midpoint Yard and path from Nanuet station to shops and the Access to Stuart Airport project.

Youtube Video links:

[Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Daglian
Executive Director