



Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2019

A meeting of the Metro-North Railroad Commuter Council (MNRCC) was convened at 12:00 noon on May 23, 2019 in the 12th Floor Conference Room (12-A), 420 Lexington Ave. New York, New York 10170.

Member Attendance

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

Staff Attendance

Lisa Daglian (Executive Director)	Present
Ellyn Shannon (Associate Director)	Absent
Bradley Brashears (Planning Manager)	Present
Sheila Binesh (Transportation Planner)	Absent
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 May 23, 2019 meeting.
Approval of Minutes for April 11, 2019 meeting.***

Board and Chair's Report:

- LIRR and MNR will be permanently combined as one MTA Board Committee.
- Susan Metzger will be Co-Chair with Kevin Law and Rhonda Herman is Vice Chair of the MNR-LIRR Joint Committee.
- Issue of inexperience of newly appointed Board members raised by public speakers.
- Two minutes OTP metric: There is a timeline of ninety days to comment with the potential to be amended – the 5:59 metric still stands for now.
- MNR “Way Ahead” program sent out as an attachment - we will send it out again for those who did not get it.
- Grade crossings: WAZE now identifies 103 grade crossings for both MNR and LIRR.
- New Haven Line boards have been installed at Grand Central; the font has been changed and they look good.
- Lengthy discussion about Bombardier and Siemens regarding installation of Positive Train Control (PTC). It was promised that the railroads will be in compliance by 2020 or the MTA will be fined \$27,000/day if not ready. Commissioner Larry Schwartz demanded that top CEO of Siemens come to the meeting but he did not show up; U.S. CEO was in attendance. There was talk of banning the contractors from doing business with the MTA because of their poor project management and cost overruns on projects. The Siemens CEO indicated there are staff who can address the issues. Sarah Feinberg, newly appointed by the Governor to the MTA Board, who came from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), participated in a phone call about the PTC work and was assured that it would all happen as planned.
- Grade crossings: Randy and Orrin met with Clarkstown officials about a new way of installing grade crossings with smoother surfaces that should be stronger and more resistant to weather and traffic.
- June 6th is the PCAC quarterly meeting – Patrick Warren will be the guest speaker.
- PCAC Executive Committee discussion: We will be sending out a survey soon to see if members will be more likely to attend if the PCAC meeting time is changed.

MNRCC Council meeting time discussion:

L. Daglian: If the meetings were held at 4:30 would you all be able to attend?

F. Amparo: That time would work, but cannot do the first Thursday of every month due to legislative meetings.

MNRCC MINUTES

3

F. Corcoran: That would be better for me too – it is best on the way out (of the City).

Old Business

New members discussion:

L. Daglian: Westchester County Executive Office has forwarded five names to the Governor's office, and one name has gone up from the Bronx BP office. We will continue to follow-up with the Governor's office – James Schoenig from Putnam County and Wilhelm Ronda from the Bronx BP office have been sent up.

We will not invite MNR staff to MNRCC meetings if only two members are in attendance in person.

Council elections: Randolph Glucksman voted in as MNRCC Chair, and Orrin Getz voted in as MNRCC Vice Chair – both unanimously.

New Business

R. Glucksman: Station Manager information should be listed on the bulletin boards at stations.

Action Item: Recommend that Station Manager information be listed at MNR stations.

F. Amparo: Suggests doing a "Meet the Council" event at other MNR stations instead of just at GCT – and that the MNRCC brochures need to be updated.

We can replace a regularly scheduled meeting with a "Meet the Council" event.

Action Item: Send dates and locations of possible "Meet the Council" events.

Action Item: Update MNRCC brochures.

F. Amparo: Received a letter from a rider about increased traffic at Yankee Stadium MNR station. She will email the letter to Randy and Lisa.

There is the need to have a permanent train at 5:30 PM (Train #755) at the station due to court house employees getting off work at 5 PM. Many cannot make the 5:08 PM train and the next train isn't until 6:08 PM.

Action Item: Lisa and Randy will follow-up to request that the train become permanent.

O. Getz: have the Hudson-Link schedules been placed at the Tarrytown MNR station?

R. Glucksman: Yes, they have been placed near the MNR timetables at the Gold Kiosk.

Adjourned

MNRCC MINUTES

4

Action Items

- **Recommend that Station Manager information be listed at MNR stations.**
- **Send dates and locations of possible “Meet the Council” events.**
- **Update MNRCC brochures.**
- **Request that the 5:30pm train at Yankee Stadium (#755) become permanent**

Youtube Video links: [Part 1 of 2](#) , [Part 2 of 2](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Daglian
Executive Director