



# Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2019

A meeting of the Metro-North Railroad Commuter Council (MNRCC) was convened at 12:00 noon on July 18, 2018 in the 16th Floor, 2 Broadway Conference RM C16.07 New York, New York 10004.

## Member Attendance

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

## Staff Attendance

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

## Non-member Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
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**Approval of Agenda for July 18, 2019 meeting.**

**Approval of Minutes for May 23, 2019 meeting.**

**Chair's Report attached.**

### **Board Report:**

- *Way Ahead* Metro-North Presentation was given to the Metro-North Committee.
- R. Glucksman: Neal Zuckerman, asked if the Committee could go to Pittsburgh to see the PTC Bombardier program there. Neal, Randy and other Committee members flew to Pittsburgh with Cathy Rinaldi and a Philadelphia contingent also came. The group saw the under-car antennas, how they are fixing them, explained the quality control process they have now. There is no choice but to believe it will work.
- R. Glucksman and O. Getz attended the NJ Transit Board meeting.
- Rockland State Senator staffer for David Carlucci called Randy and mentioned the poor service West of Hudson. Randy suggested the staffer come to the NJ Transit Board meeting. The NJ Transit Board meeting coincided with the NJ Transit's founding. R. Glucksman, O. Getz, and Mr. Cahill all spoke at the meeting. Some of Randy's comments were captured on the news re: how important the PCT project is, but that NJ Transit has been provided no details of their testing or if they are going to meet the deadline. NJ Transit gives no comments on the topic.
- None of us are going to the Advocates meeting. The Advocates want the meeting to be structured the way it was before. Instead they feel they are not meeting with a high enough level.

**Action Item: Lisa will reach out to Stuart, an NJ Advocate, to see what they are doing.**

### **Old Business**

Membership Update: No change from last month.

**Action Item: Lisa will reach out to County Executive Larimer's office to see if there is anything they can do to speed things up.**

R. Glucksman: Received an invitation to speak at an event for the Tappan Zee Bridge toll hearing from Senator Carlucci's office.

R. Glucksman: Thanked the Council for their support, Randy, on June 20<sup>th</sup> received an email and letter that he and Andrew had been reappointed to the MTA Board for six years, until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

L. Daglian: The LIRRCC has been pursuing trying to get our members to be voting Board members.

L. Daglian: Station Manager Program - we have been getting calls that commuters cannot find the station manager contact information at stations.

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**Action Item: Reach out to Cathy Rinaldi (or Mark Mannix) to check on the status of getting Station Manager contact information at MNR stations.**

L. Daglian: MNRCC Meet the Council Event – possibility to hold event to introduce newly appointed members. On site meetings at stations?

L. Daglian: Needs responses (Rich) about the possibility of moving time/location of PCAC meetings.

**Action Item: Send out an email about the time/location of PCAC meetings.**

R. Glucksman: Updating the MNRCC brochures – Bradley working on this.

**Action Item: Update MNRCC brochures.**

### ***New Business***

L. Daglian and R. Glucksman: Discuss MTA Transformation Plan and Chief Transformation Officer (CTO). There is a lot of uncertainty on how the plan will move forward especially as the CTO has not been named yet. Discuss the issues with consolidation of functions as well as the separation of functions – silos being torn down while others are being established (i.e. capital and operations).

L. Daglian: The Capital Program is an interesting animal – it's due in the fall and the Twenty-Year Needs in the winter – this is backwards. There is also a forensic audit of the Capital Program being completed by the winter.

L. Daglian: PCAC and Councils have called for a 45-day comment period and public forums for the MTA's Transformation Plan.

L. Daglian: We met with MNR regarding Freedom Ticket – next steps to bring it to the Bronx – and fare policy. Outer Borough Transit Fund sets aside \$50 million for transit outside of Manhattan and we are trying to find out more information.

E. Shannon: There are a number of proposals MNR is looking at, including Freedom Ticket, but it sounded as though there are more out there that we are not completely aware of. Freedom Ticket is the most sensible because it takes capacity into consideration, and is fact based. MNR is very capacity constrained, and needs capital improvements. We need to know what is in the Twenty-Year Needs Assessment..

B. Brashears: MNR will be getting us the train counts at 125<sup>th</sup> St for us to have a better understanding of the actual capacity constraints during the AM peak.

L. Daglian: The Bronx Borough President wants the MNR Freedom Ticket to take a different approach than the .8 miles from the nearest subway connection – there should be other factors considered (i.e. topography) for the program's expansion to MNR.

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Discussion ensues about the need to determine MNR capacity, infrastructure and rolling stock needs. This is how the MNRCC can advocate for Freedom Ticket's expansion is by calling for investments to be included the capital program.

O. Getz: The need to get MNR to take over the Suffern station and make it accessible – working with the county executive to reissue letter in support of this. Suffern is interested in getting TOD at the station – it is long overdue.

E. Shannon: If the town/mayor were to get engaged - when is the last time they did a master plan that incorporates access to the station?

### ***Adjourned***

#### **Action Items**

- Lisa will reach out to Stuart, an NJ Advocate, to see what they are doing.
- Lisa will reach out to County Executive Larimer's office to see if there is anything they can do, to speed things up.
- Reach out to Cathy Rinaldi (or Mark Mannix) to check on the status of getting Station Manager contact information at MNR stations.
- Send out an email about the time/location of PCAC meetings.
- Update MNRCC brochures.

Youtube Video links: [Part 1 of 3](#) ; [Part 2 of 3](#) ; [Part 3 of 3](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Daglian  
Executive Director