



A virtual meeting of the Metro-North Railroad Commuter Council (MNRCC) was convened at 12:00 p.m. on April 21, 2022, via Zoom.

Member Attendance

Randolph Glucksman (Chair)	Present
Francena Amparo	Present
Richard Cattagio	Present
Francis T. Corcoran	Absent
Walter Zullig	Present
Rosalind Clay Carter	Present
Michael Stanton	Present

Staff Attendance

Lisa Daglian (Executive Director)	Present
Bradley Brashears (Planning Manager)	Present
Kara Gurl (Research & Com. Assoc)	Absent
Jessica Spezio (Admin. Asst.)	Present
Shaul Picker (Intern)	Present

Non-member Attendance

Name:

Affiliation

Andrew Albert
 Stephen Lofthouse

NYCTRC Chair
 Former MNRCC Member

Approval of Agenda for April 21, 2022 meeting.

Approval of Minutes for February 16, 2022 meeting with correction on page 5: change Diamond Property to Simon Property.

Chairs and Board Report

- New schedules went into effect as of March 27, raising the service level from 82% to 89% of pre-pandemic service. While I am pleased that with the completion of repair work on the culvert north of Dobbs Ferry, there are still some express/semi-express trains on the shoulders of the peak hours. I did notify Metro-North, but at the present time I was told they could not add more trains due to the 89% limitation.
- As you already know, on March 21, our colleague and vice-chair Orrin Getz passed away. Although he had been a part our council for only five years, his advocacy for improved service for riders goes back more than 50 years. President Rinaldi during her remarks at the March 28, 2022, Joint LIRR/Metro-North Committee Meeting praised Orrin and his efforts over many years to improve rail service for West of Hudson riders. I also read my own statement.
- The new station shelter at Nanuet, originally scheduled for completion in the “4th Quarter of 2021” was completed during February. In my statement I concluded with a request that this shelter be dedicated to his memory. Within a week, we received word that for now, a temporary plaque will be placed in the shelter at the dedication ceremony.

R. Glucksman: Thank you to all that came to honor Orrin along with Cathy Rinaldi and the elected officials today. This is the largest turnout we have ever seen.

- Shortly before 8:30 AM, Tuesday April 12, a shooter set off a smoke canister in a Manhattan bound N train as it approached the 36th St. & 4th Ave. station, then fired off 33 rounds, wounding 16 passengers. Due to excellent police work and assistance of the public, the individual was arrested about 28 hours later. He is facing very serious federal charges. Fortunately, no one died.
- I learned at last month’s Joint LIRR/Metro-North Committee Meeting that Mark Mannix, Senior Director Corporate & Public Affairs is retiring. Mark was an excellent liaison to Metro-North for all activities involving our MNRCC and the railroad. MNR President Cathy Rinaldi presented Mark with a certificate commemorating his years of service. I wished him the best in his retirement.

MNRCC MINUTES

3

R. Glucksman: A vote was taken to affirm Francena Amparo to fill the vacancy on the Executive Committee now that Orrin has passed. Congratulations Francena and we look forward to having you on the committee.

W. Zullig: We are now getting to the point post- Covid where service is more stable, and I think paper timetables should be reinstated. If it's an option, we could possibly fund some of the printing to be done.

R. Glucksman: Walter, Steve, and I actually collect timetables.

R. Clay Carter: Can I suggest there be an accessible video of what's available or an app on the internet. There is a difference between the digital natives and the digital adapters. If they are taught how to use the technology, they can search for things on their own.

A. Albert: Service changes so frequently, that printed schedules get outdated quickly.

B. Brashears: They should have the schedule printed at the station for viewing.

F. Amparo: Can it be streamlined so if you want a paper timetable the conductors could distribute them?

W. Zullig: SEPTA and Boston are printing them, and RTA has also printed some copies.

R. Clay Carter: I think we should explore different options instead of printing, especially considering the environment. A subscription to receive an email for the timetable and then print it at home for your own use is a good idea.

S. Lofthouse: NJT has the availability on their website. You can go on the site and click and print it.

R. Glucksman: I motion to request a small batch to be printed of the three branch timetables at the next timetable change.

R. Clay Carter: There should be a printable online option and also a video on how to use online featured for those who aren't internet savvy.

Motion made and passed.

R. Glucksman: We have gotten several requests to bring back quiet cars.

R. Clay Carter: Why were they eliminated in the first place?

MNRCC MINUTES

4

R. Glucksman: They eliminated them because of low ridership due to Covid.

Motion made and passed

R. Clay Carter: Can we request to have mask cars? People with compromised immune systems or the elderly can feel safe in a mask-only car.

F. Amparo: Following the end of the mask mandate can we ask Metro-North to accommodate those who choose to wear a mask? I motion to request for mask cars at the end of the mandate.

Motion made and passed.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

R. Cataggio: Are there plans to put up electronic/ digital signs at Harriman? Also, When the trains are late, there are no announcements made. I want to request a shelter like the new one at Nanuet for the Harriman station.

R. Glucksman: You should reach out to the County Executive for his support, as we did here.

M. Stanton: Is the Citi bike at GCT going to be replaced? What is the relationship?

L. Daglian: We will look into that and get back to you. We will also have the MTA give their 1st mile/ last mile presentation at an upcoming meeting.

W. Zullig: Do we know if they are making the Suffern station accessible?

B. Brashears: Yes, Suffern and Pearl River are both being made accessible.

W. Zullig: They are doing a realignment of the Poughkeepsie yard.

R. Glucksman: We have received a request from ESPA to reach out to Congresswoman Maloney's office seeking funds for the realignment and are reaching out to Metro-North to see if they support it.

MNRCC MINUTES

5

Action Items:

- Letter to Metro-North re: paper timetables and Quiet Car
- ESPA request

Meeting recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kcu6fJCPbXg>

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Daglian
Executive Director