

**Village of Algonquin  
Economic Development Commission  
Regular Meeting  
March 13, 2014  
7:00 p.m.**

**Agenda Item 1:           Roll Call/Establish Quorum**

PRESENT:     Members: Chairperson Jerry Pinderski, Dave Ward, Linda Laipert, Rich Galati, and Tom McCabe. Staff: Katie Parkhurst Absent: Steve Karaba and Kurt Moders Guests: Mary Donner, Pace and Scott Hennings, McDOT

**Agenda Item 2:           Approve Minutes from the November 14, 2013 meeting**

Chairperson Pinderski entertained a motion on the minutes from the November 14, 2013 meeting. Mr. McCabe made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 14, 2013 meeting and Mrs. Laipert seconded. A voice vote noted all ayes, motion passed.

**Agenda Item 3:           Mary Donner, Pace Suburban Bus**

Ms. Mary Donner, Pace and Mr. Scott Hennings, McDOT were introduced. Ms. Donner explained that Pace has a balanced budget and they run on time. Pace provides all the ADA service in Chicago and transit in the suburbs. Pace has developed a great partnership with McHenry County. Ms. Donner provided a folder to each commissioner full of information regarding the different services that Pace provides (carpools, ride shares, MC Ride, etc), a ride service areas map, and RTA Chicago maps. Pace and the County are concerned with providing rides in the southeast part of the County, where the population is great and service is almost non-existent. Currently there are 39 Pace vehicles in McHenry County. The Village of Algonquin can participate in the community vehicle program and/or MC Ride program. Venture card is working for Pace now.

*Chairperson Pinderski* inquired about expanding service in Algonquin. Ms. Donner said there are plans for a BRT (Bus Rapid Transit) up Randall Road in the future.

*Mr. Ward* inquired about transit on I-90; how far into the City would it go? Ms. Donner stated transit is in the works with the expansion of I-90 and bus on the shoulder program. The bus would pull off I-90 to a park and ride and then get right back on I-90 to keep going. Mr. Hennings mentioned the park and ride in Lake in the Hills.

*Mr. Ward* asked how popular are the van pool programs? Ms. Donner said they are not well used out here. People love their cars too much and flex time schedules by large employers and large parking lots do not promote the idea of carpooling. There are a few van pools in the County.

*Mr. Ward* inquired if Pace fields calls from individual residents that wish to arrange rides? Ms. Donner said yes and there is a number to call in your folder. Mr. Hennings stated he gets calls daily from people inquiring how they can get rides.

MC Ride started in 2012 which now allows people to use Dial-a-ride in and between the three participating communities (it used to be just within a community). User pays a minimal fee, RTA taxes are used to purchase vehicles, and participating communities pay a share. Mr. Hennings mentioned that 40% of riders are general population that is riding to work and last year there were a total of 85,000 rides.

*Chairperson Pinderski* inquired about the cost. Mr. Hennings stated that communities should budget \$2.00/capita; however, they do get grants to offset the cost.

*Mrs. Parkhurst* inquired about serving all Algonquin or just the McHenry County portion. Preliminary talks now, County will work with us if we are interested.

*Mrs. Laipert* inquired about combining the various transit agencies. Ms. Donner said Pace will still function in the suburbs.

Mr. Hennings talked about the County's 2040 Transportation Plan. For transit, the highest priority is Metra upgrades (schedules, number of trains, overnight parking for trains, new stations). New fixed bus route proposed along Randall Road and Route 31, really connect Elgin and Crystal Lake; and another one to connect Huntley and Algonquin.

*Mrs. Laipert* asked for clarification on MC Ride. Mr. Hennings explained that the County contracts with Pace to run the program. *Mrs. Laipert* inquired about the Community Ride program to see if we could do specific location pick-up to the train station.

*Mr. Galati* asked how is Pace marketing the program to gain general ridership? Ms. Donner stated they work through the communities, job fairs, with businesses, etc to spread the word. They do not advertise in the communities that do not have the service to avoid confusion.

*Mr. McCabe* clarified that if Algonquin is interested in the MC Ride program, we need to have a neighboring community also join so bus is not just driving through LITH to get to Crystal Lake.

*Mrs. Laipert* mentioned that taxi service is increasing in this area, so the demand for rides is increasing.

*Chairperson Pinderski* inquired about the demand in Algonquin now. *Mrs. Parkhurst* stated there is not much of a demand now that staff is aware of. The Village did operate a senior bus program for a while, but that was not even close to breaking even for cost.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Other Business**

*Mrs. Parkhurst* announced that the Randall Road improvement website is now up and running again.

*Mrs. Parkhurst* told the EDC that the next EDC meeting will be in May. *Chairperson Pinderski* mentioned he would like to further discuss the Randall Road improvements at this meeting.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Adjournment**

There was no further business to discuss; the meeting was adjourned at 8:15p.m.

Approved:

  
Jerry Pinderski, Chairperson, EDC