



Alamo Area Accessible Transportation Coalition Initiative (AAATCI) Meeting Notes

April 19, 2012 – 9:00 am-11:00 am
AACOG, 3rd floor classroom
8700 Tesoro Dr. Ste. 700
San Antonio, TX 78217

In attendance: Judy Babbitt; Patti Blanchard; Krystian Boreyko (by telephone); Ed Cimics; Scott Ericksen; Isa Fernández; David Frost; Larry Johnson; Chun-lin Lin; Richard Martinez; Tracy Manning; Lea Rosenauer; Martha Spinks

Agenda Item 1: Welcome/Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves to new AAATCI member, Councilman Ed Cimics of Live Oak.

Agenda Item 2: Subcommittee Project Updates and Broader Coalition Suggestions:

Sensitivity Training Subcommittee

Members Present: Patty Blanchard, Isa Fernández, Larry Johnson, Lea Rosenauer, Dr. Martha Spinks (Chair).

Dr. Martha Spinks, Subcommittee Chair, Sensitivity Training/Etiquette briefed the group on the goal of the subcommittee – to develop a “Train the Trainer” program based on comprehensive best practices in etiquette, discovered and enhanced by members, which would also be stored as a database and available on AAATCI partner websites.

- The “Guide to Etiquette and Behavior for Interacting with Persons with Disabilities,” which originated from the Disability Access Office of the City of San Antonio, and was updated by the Alamo Council of the Blind, serves as a guide to the subcommittee. Copies were provided to meeting attendees.
- Mr. Boreyko noted that Easter Seals Project Action newsletter is advertising a online, two-part webinar on the subject.
- Dr. Martinez asked if there was a certification program for sensitivity training. Ms. Babbitt said there was not, but there is one for ADA.



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- By next quarter, it is expected that a draft database will be established that will inform planning for the “Train the Trainers” project and that a list of initial organizations to provide training to will be established.

ADA-Pedestrian Infrastructure Subcommittee

Members: Judy Babbitt, Scott Ericksen, Isa Fernández (Chair), Tracy Manning

Isa Fernández, ADA Infrastructure Subcommittee Chair, reviewed goals from two meetings that were held. These are – to raise awareness on issues that relate to accessible, “complete” streets and Aging in Place by doing presentations at various councils, committees, and community centers.

- Mr. Ericksen mentioned that the Pedestrian Safety Action Plan (PSAP), which was discussed at first meeting, is expected to be approved on Monday. PSAP include 43 treatments for pedestrian safety/mobility, with a resolution that asks cities to consider integrating treatments.
- Mr. Manning brought up an elderly couple that were killed by a bus stop (with no bench) recently in San Antonio, noting that funding is often the issue that stops improvements.
- Ms. Babbitt suggested that AAATCI members drive by Harry Wurzbach to get a good example of safe, accessible streets with user-friendly bus stops which are “perfectly cornered.”
- The project could help raise awareness for needed improvements and resulting benefits for the community said Mr. Ericksen. National Bike Month is in May and was noted as a possible tie-in for our project, along with Older Americans Month, also in May, and National Disability Awareness Month, in October.

Urban-Rural Link Subcommittee

Members Present: Ed Cimics, Isa Fernández (Interim Chair), Tracy Manning

Ms. Fernández notified group that Roy Munoz, formerly Chair, no longer works with AACOG/Alamo Regional Transit, and that she would be the Interim until someone else volunteers to chair.

- Referencing the ART-VIA Interlocal Agreement, Mr. Manning reiterated the idea of a pilot program that expands to Live Oak.
- Councilman Cimics reiterated the needs of demand-response transportation for his constituents in Live Oak, and brought attention to the unincorporated areas within COSA that have similar linkage problems.
- Ms. Fernández noted that the group will meet again soon with ART staff to continue efforts for pilot a rural-urban project.



Grant Research Subcommittee

Members Present: Isa Fernández, Tracy Manning, Lea Rosenauer (Chair), Martha Spinks

Ms. Rosenauer, Grant Subcommittee Chair, updated the group on the Veteran's Transportation Community Living Initiative (VTCLI) Federal Transit Administration grant, which is a AAATCI initiative called AlamoRides.org. Planning for the grant has resulted in eight meetings including 35 individuals from varying partner agencies.

- Ms. Rosenauer presented a brief Power Point Presentation on AlamoRides.org (see attached).
- Mr. Boreyko noted that ESPA would be a technical assistance provider for future One-Call, One-Click initiatives.
- Mr. Frost noted that it would be wise to count the number of callers that cannot be helped. Ms. Rosenauer noted that AlamoRides.org would have a soft opening to begin in an effort to be strategic about the concerns for unmet callers' needs.
- Mr. Lin requested talking menus, instant chat, and surveys on the website, which the group agreed was needed.
- Ms. Fernández noted the template for AlamoRides.org is 511.org, the San Francisco One-Call, One-Click effort which includes online, phone, and mobile app directory to providers by genre, maps, and alerts. Ms. Rosenauer added that I-way.org has also inspired AlamoRides.org.
- Dr. Spinks noted that the grant award notification should be sometime in June 2012.

Dialysis Transportation Subcommittee

Members Present: Isa Fernández, David Frost, Dr. Richard Martinez (Chair), Dr. Martha Spinks

Dr. Martinez, Dialysis Transportation Subcommittee Chair, briefed AAATCI members on the first dialysis subcommittee meeting goal – to research the need for patient-centered efficiencies in dialysis transportation. Dr. Martinez briefed the coalition on a meeting between a local cardiologist with his own practice and a doctor from the State of Texas Department of Health in Austin, noting that:

- Dialysis clinics have a bottom line that must be met. Demonstrate how patient-centered improvements can be mutually beneficial.
- There are 3-4 groups comprised of 20+ nephrologists in the area. Identify who the groups are, and make contact with the Director (not Administrative department). The clinics will follow what the doctor wants.
- Highlight demographics that demonstrate an expected rise in seniors, dialysis users.



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- Ms. Fernández noted that she would work with Mr. Lin on beginning a map with all of the providers.

Agenda Item: – Thoughts on Moving Forward

Ms. Fernández asked when extending an invitation to the public at large would be a good idea.

- Mr. Boreyko responded that we can invite other members now or later, but it is better to have projects in place.
- Ms. Fernández suggested once more projects are in place/near completion, that special meetings should be held to engage seniors and people with disabilities to help tailor initiatives to user needs and continue the work of AAATCI beyond a year.

Agenda Item: – Forthcoming Meeting Timeline

Ms. Fernández projected that by next quarterly meeting in July, that the following is anticipated to be complete:

1. **Sensitivity Training Subcommittee** should have draft of expanded Etiquette Guide and list of places to consider for “Train the Trainer” sessions.
2. **ADA Infrastructure Subcommittee** should have updated Power Point Presentation and list of places to consider giving presentations to.
3. **Urban-Rural Link Subcommittee** should have more information from ART, TXDot, and VIA regarding the plausibility of a pilot program for providing transportation to Live Oak.
4. **Grant Research Subcommittee** should have news on the VTCLI grant status and a list of upcoming opportunities for AAATCI to consider supporting.
5. **Dialysis Transportation Subcommittee** should have a local map of dialysis centers complete, and information from VIA, AMR, and SSEP regarding where patients live and are going for treatment, respecting HIPPA privacy statutes.