

April 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes – Martha’s Vineyard Transit Authority Advisory Board

Ms. Gompert stated in accordance with Governor Baker’s emergency modification of the Open Meeting Law this meeting will be held virtually. Remote participation only via Zoom Communications.

Present: Alice Butler, Oak Bluffs; Mark Snider, Edgartown; Elaine Miller, Tisbury; Lenny Jason, Chilmark; Susanna Sturgis, West Tisbury; June Manning, Aquinnah; Anne Sylvester, Disabled Community Rider Rep., Edgartown; Kelly McCarron, Rider Rep., Edgartown; Angela Gompert, VTA; Lauren Thomas, VTA; Colin Ouderkirk, VTA.

9:37 AM -Ms. Butler called the meeting to order.

Public Comments: None, no members of the public present.

Minutes: Ms. Miller made a motion to accept the minutes from March 5, 2021. Ms. Manning 2nd. **[MSC]**

Day Pass Pricing: Ms. Gompert stated calendar year 2019 had an increase in the day pass from \$8 to \$10 in-season. Ms. Thomas confirmed. Ms. Gompert stated that ridership year-to-date was about 360,000, whereas traditionally it would be about 1 million. Therefore, she recommended that the day pass rate should be reduced back to \$8 to help boost ridership. Ms. Gompert stated the Microtransit program worked for Island residents, but not well for visitors as yet. She stated that with the current available federal funding, the VTA needed to work on rebuilding ridership, and reducing the day pass to \$8 vs. \$10 would be a part of that rebuilding process. Ms. Miller asked if there was a way to monitor the results of changing the price to see if it was successful. Ms. Thomas stated that pass sales were tracked and therefore the data would reflect the change. Ms. Gompert stated the launch of the electronic ticketing would be another way to help promote ridership, as well as help with stat tracking. Ms. Manning made a motion to change the day pass price from \$10 to \$8. There was brief discussion and Ms. Miller seconded. Roll call vote was taken, vote carried. **[MSC]**

Annual Conflict of Interest Law: Ms. Gompert stated this needed to be done annually, per regulations, and a receipt acknowledgement was required for compliance.

Old/New Business: Ms. Gompert announced the ribbon-cutting for the new solar canopies and microgrid at 11 A Street on May 14th. Per Ms. Sturgis’ request, the Advisory Board Bylaw discussion was tabled for a future meeting. Ms. Gompert announced the passing of Pete Hermann, a longtime VTA employee. Ms. Gompert reminded everyone about the importance of the timing of the ribbon-cutting on May 14th in relation to the Edgartown Town Meeting. Ms. Sylvester asked when the contract for operations was up; Ms. Gompert and Ms. Thomas confirmed it was up February 2022; Ms. Gompert stated it would be going out to bid in the late fall.

Ms. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Manning 2nd. **[MSC]**

Ms. Butler declared the meeting closed at 9:59 AM.

Date

Signed