

**POLICY AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
JULY 14, 2005**

MINUTES

Prior to the start of the Policy and Legislative Committee meeting, Mr. Bartlett made a brief editorial to the Committee members on behalf of WMATA's support to the city of London's transit system representatives. In light of the recent London transit system bombings incident which occurred on July 7, 2005, Mr. Bartlett asked the Committee members as an expression of their support to participate in the signing of the sympathy and support banner from WMATA which will be presented to the Ambassador of the City of London.

A. Approval of Procedures for Public Comment Period at Board Meetings

Mr. Bartlett referred the Public and Legislative Committee to the approval of a resolution to adopt the procedures which were adopted on February 17, 2005, by the Board of Directors for the public comment period at Board meetings. Initiated at the April 2005 Board meeting, temporary procedures governing the public comment period were used as guidelines for three Board meetings. These main procedures are as follows: twenty (20) total minutes are allotted for public comment period, two (2) minutes are allowed per speaker with a maximum of ten (10) speakers, speakers are required to sign-up prior to the Board meeting, speakers who did not have the opportunity to speak are transferred to next Board meeting, speakers can only speak once during a three-month period, speakers are not allowed to comment on personnel issues or contractual matters, and speakers are limited to members of the public who are not WMATA employees.

Mrs. Mack moved, seconded by Mr. Linton that Policy and Legislative Committee approve and refer to the full Board the resolution to adopt the procedures for the public comment period at Board meetings with the following modifications: to permit more time for pre-meeting sign-up and require only one (1) copy of written testimony. The motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Zimmerman abstained.

Discussions:

Mr. Zimmerman expressed concern about the current restrictions of pre-meeting sign-up period and allowance of 10 speakers maximum. Mr. Zimmerman also expressed concern about the forum allowing restrictions of speakers' comments relating to personnel issues or contractual matters.

Mrs. Mack expressed concern about the unnecessarily excessive number of copies of written testimony provided by speakers. However, a suggestion was made Mrs. Mack to have speakers provide only one written copy to WMATA.

B. Approval of Public Review and Comment Period for Proposed Bylaws for the Riders' Advisory Council (RAC)

Ms. Agouridis referred the Policy and Legislative Committee to the approval to establish a public review and comment period for the proposed bylaws of the Riders' Advisory Council (RAC). The purposes of the proposed RAC are (1) to outline the following four recommendations for the Riders' Advisory Council (RAC): mission and goals, composition, selection, and implementation schedule; and (2) to establish a guideline of a 30-day public review and comment period for the bylaws. Seeking public comment is to begin on July 18, 2005 and end on August 16, 2005.

Mr. Graham moved, seconded by Mr. Zimmerman move that the Policy and Legislative Committee refer to the full Board the approval to establish a public review and comment period beginning on July 18, 2005 and ending on August 16, 2005, for the proposed bylaws of the Riders' Advisory Council. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussions:

Mr. Zimmerman expressed concern regarding the implementation schedule of the Riders' Advisory Council. He also expressed the necessity for the RAC be involved with selection of WMATA staff.

Mr. Kauffman commended WMATA staff on their efforts for the opening the various avenues for transit riders to make comments on service improvements.

Harold M. Bartlett, Acting Secretary