SPOT ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2016 @ 1:00p.m.

Call to Order at 1:00 p.m. Attendance: Mayors Lewis, Rognstad, Shaha; Ponderay Councilman Rick Larkin; Erik Brubaker; Jared Yost; Clif Warren; Steve Holt of Eureka Institute

Minutes of the last meeting: Motion/second: Lewis/Shaha. Motion carries

Reports:

Ridership: For 2015, ridership was down slightly. There was discussion that it may have been because of the down ski season (Schweitzer) and lower gas prices enabling more people to drive. Fixed route was down more than Para transit. Jared requests the per stop spreadsheet for the year from Marion.

Operations/TECH: Clif drilled the holes in the signs and brought signs for the group to see. The new signs are specific to each stop and show how to get the new app. Devon is working on press release and radio script, which Shelby will produce. Board will review both before producing.

 Old Business:

- Joint Powers: Marion confirms ICRMP and PERSI will be continued under the JPA. In her discussion with ICRMP it was suggested appointees be elected officials. Annie will send ICRMP the draft for further input. Overall, the draft was acceptable with a question on the need for non-voting alternatives. Shelby had questions on purchasing requirements. Clif and Annie assured him nothing can be purchased that hasn't already been reviewed/approved through the funding/grant/city approvals process. Grants/budgets are now on a 2-year cycle as well and have been approved by the board. Marion will call Mountain Rides to find out if their appointments are elected officials, or what sort of mix has worked on their board.
- Radio Ads, flyers. See TECH report above
- Sign Status: See Operations report above
- Schweitzer Status. It will be summer before news on the grant will be available.

New Business:

- QUEST: Clif reports Quest is very interested in setting up a service from CDA to Quest. Quest's employee survey found close to 20 employees willing to use the service and QUEST has expressed a willingness to subsidize, although no specifics on this have been discussed yet. They have exhausted the local employee pool and are recruiting actively in the CDA and Post Falls area. Clif also spoke with City Link who is in favor of this as it helps CDA residents find work. The initial discussion with QUEST included:
    a) Bus would leave CDA around 4:00 a.m. reach QUEST 6:00 a.m., returning 4:45 p.m.
    b) Quest was impressed with training presentation from Marion
    c) Discussed hiring QUEST employees as a SPOT employee/driver
    d) QUEST could set up payroll deduction before taxes, they collect the money and write a check to SPOT.

Jared expressed concern that this would not benefit our local community. The employee pool should grow from within the SPOT area, not to shuttle people back and forth. Clif feels just the opposite. Public transportation is a proven economic driver. All agreed Jared's concern is valid and would hope that if public transportation is key to growth, this may get these commuters to find a way to move closer to work.

Other Business:
Steve Holt introduced the Eureka Institute to the board. This is a non-profit organization to foster lifelong learning, leadership, education and recreation skills to at risk students. The kids need community hours to graduate and he sees a good opportunity for the kids to do this by helping SPOT with our covered stop initiative. The board is very in favor of this idea and asked Steve to attend tomorrow's arts commission meeting with Marion. From there, Steve has offered to put together schematic design concepts and begin to meet with the Tech committee as well. Preliminary thoughts for covered stops ranged from a complete covered stop that includes bike racks, cover, and garbage cans; to smaller versions where space is limited. Discussion also included maintenance such as snow and garbage removal as part of either community service or "adopt a stop" from local businesses. Also discussed having businesses approached for funding or material and incorporating a place on the stops for name/logo placement.

Adjournment. Motion/second: Lewis/Shaha. Meeting adjourned at 2:24