

HANDI-LIFT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, August 18, 2010  
MEETING MINUTES

Prepared by Namon Hulitt Jr. with corrections by Ms. Jerri Walton that her name be included in the minutes

The Handi-Lift Advisory Committee meeting was held on Wednesday, August 18, 2010 at the Hood Building in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor conference room located at 200 South President St. Jackson, MS. The following individuals were present: Rev. Sam Gleese, ADA Coordinator for Jackson; Dr. Scott Crawford, Chairperson; Mrs/MS Lee Cole; Napoleon Campbell; Mr. Benny Hopkins with Planning and Development; Mr. Samuel C. Tensley, General Manager/Jatran; Mr. Robert Joseph; Mr. Eddie Turner; Mr. Willie Cook; Mrs. /Ms Jeri Walton; Mrs. /Ms. Judy Sikes, Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities; Mr. Jason Bunch; Mr. /Ms. Karen Robinson; Mr. Namon Hulitt Jr, AARP.

The meeting was called to order by Rev. Sam Gleese @ 1:05 PM. The minutes were read by Mr. /Ms Judy Sykes with corrections by Mrs. /Ms Jerri Walton. The motion was made and seconded and was accepted.

Rev. Sam Gleese informed the committee that Dr. Crawford would be late but was on his way. Ms. Shanickey Kirkwood has submitted her resignation as the chair of the committee because of health issues. Rev. Sam Gleese recommended that Dr. Crawford move from vice-chair to chair. Mrs. /Ms Lee Cole motioned that Dr. Crawford would become Chair. This motion was seconded by Mr. Eddie Turner. Dr. Crawford accepted the chairmanship position with the understanding that he does not have the power to vote on issues or make a motion.

Old Business: (1) It is very important that the City Legal Department, the Mayor and City Council members move forward on the various issues before them. According to Mr. Benny Hopkins, as of August 16, 2010, the City has received the Monitor's report. Mr. Eddie Turner wanted to know why it is taking so long for a response to these issues. (2) We are still awaiting appointment of an ADA Compliance Officer for JATRAN Handi-Lift and the appointment of an appeals Board. (3) Mr. Tenseley stated that JATRAN will be receiving four (4) new buses very soon. He also stated that he will be visiting other cities, similar in size to Jackson to study how they are using the new software that JATRAN is ordering. We are still awaiting the new computers and scheduling software that will enable Handi-Lift to function as needed. Just a reminder, that the deadline in the consent decree is September 30, 2010. (4) This has been brought up several times, but it bears repeating, JATRAN needs to be more diligent about checking new vehicles for all necessary equipment such as seat belts, the proper type of securements, manuals, etc., 'BEFORE' accepting them according to Dr. Crawford and other committee members. It was recommended by Ms. Cole that JATRAN should try video and audio public service announcements that promote public transit to be played on public access

channels and radio stations. Mr. Tenseley indicated that his staff is all ready working on these issues. It has also been recommended that JATRAN could try buying sedans/vans which are cheaper and more fuel efficient for use with paratransit riders who can ride in regular vehicles since other paratransit operators use sedans in their fleets to transport ambulatory individuals.

Submitted by Namon Hulitt Jr.

These Minutes were approved by the Handi-Lift Advisory Committee on September 15, 2010.