

Vallejo Baylink Advisory Committee

Quarterly Meeting with Baylink Minutes

February 27, 2008

Baylink

- I. **Call to Order:** 6:50 pm
- II. **Roll Call:** Jim Rutherford, Kim Trotter, Dale Knight, Kathy Beistel, Robert Boyce, Rhonda Schor, Paula Wade, Marty Robbins (Baylink)
- III. **Approval of Minutes:** 1/14/08 VBAC meeting minutes approved.
- IV. **Current Business:**
 - WETA:
 1. Kathy attended the first meeting of RTAC (Red Team Advisory Committee), a group of approximately 25 concerned citizens who will work with city officials regarding the WETA takeover of the ferries and ferry service. At this time, little information is known. The committee was provided a copy of a document the city has prepared for the state with a list of requirements. Kathy will scan the document to share with committee members.
 2. The state is still working on clean-up legislation. Senator Evan's staff is writing a subsequent bill to address outstanding issues.
 3. WETA's is late in naming their new board. The first board meeting is supposed to be held by April 1st, 2008. The board was supposed to be named in January 2008.
- V. **New Business:**
 - **Officer Changes:** Kim announced the installation of new officers, voted in during last month's meeting:
 - a. New chair is Kim Trotter
 - b. New liaison is Dale Knight
 - c. New membership recruiter is Jeff Hobbs
 - d. Paula will remain secretary
 - **Baylink Log:**
 1. Kathy was hoping the RTAC meeting would provide information for the next issue of the log, but no details have been provided by the city. The next log can include the City's and RTAC activities, but will need to emphasize there are no details regarding the clean-up language or any impact to the riders or crew at this time.
 2. Rho suggested creating a blog (Baylink website) which would provide updated information rather than wait for the next quarterly log.
 3. Kim suggested an article featuring the early Vallejo ferries, information available at the Historical Museum.

- **Bankruptcy:**
 1. The City's general fund will be out of money by March 31st, which may cause the need to file Chapter 9 bankruptcy. The filing may provide relief from the police & firefighters contracts, which have drained the fund.
 2. Per Marty, Crystal has indicated the transportation fund is solvent, and is not at risk at this time. However, the transportation fund has had debts to the general fund, which a bankruptcy judge may require to be paid. The action may cause risk to the transportation fund as well as the contract with Blue & Gold fleet, possibly affecting ferry service.

- **Dogs on Board:** Current policy indicates dogs must be in carriers (with the exception of service dogs), however, this policy is not enforced by the deck hands. A large, non-confined dog was recently seen on a 4:30pm boat, and immediately proceeded to urinate on the rug. Marty will review the policy with the deck hands.

- **WiFi:** Service has been installed on the INTINTOLI, but it not working well due to its temporary nature, with frequent outages while crossing the bay. New hardware may be installed on all boats, and possibly paid for with advertising dollars. Marty will follow-up on the progress.

- **Wine Tour Groups:**
 1. The groups have been beneficial in increasing the number of passengers on the afternoon trips to San Francisco, however, they are often inebriated after their visits to the wine country and will sometimes enjoy a recently purchased bottle on the ferry ride. Their behavior is not only bothersome to other passengers, but a recent incident involving an inebriated tour group, who exited the ferry by the wrong door, caused minor injuries and created liability concerns for Blue & Gold. The tour group operators are the first off the boats in order to collect tips at the gate, but will be asked to accept responsibilities for their groups' behavior, and see them all off the boat upon arriving at the dock.
 2. This issue brought up the fact that several commuters will often share a bottle of wine on the trip home. Although poor behavior is not usually attributed to these small groups, it is against Baylink's policy (and a liquor license violation) to allow passengers to bring and open bottles of alcohol on the ferries.

- **Summer Schedule:**
 1. A proposed fourth trip has been added to Pier 41, which will cause a slight change in the timetables. The additional arrival time at Pier 41 will enable passengers to transfer to the Blue & Gold Fleet's service to Angel Island.
 2. Special runs will again be available for baseball fans, servicing night (pickup only) and weekend games (dedicated service to and from the

ballpark). Upon the City's approval of this plan, the dedicated weekend boat will be parked at the Ferry Building during the game, and undergo extensive cleaning by the crew.

VI. Next meeting TBA

Meeting adjourned 7:40pm

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Wade
Secretary