



MINUTES

CITIZENS ADVISORY NETWORK REGULAR MEETING

Thursday December 19, 2024 6:00 p.m.
BFT Administration Bldg. GM Conference Room
1000 Columbia Park Trail, Richland, WA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88161679988?pwd=fxrppdq7U7NCfNysoYymMxYiXmfUTu.1>

Meeting ID: 881 6167 9988 Passcode: 155544 Dial In: (253) 215 8782 or (888) 788 0099

CAN Meeting Agenda, Meeting Minutes and archived Zooms will be available at:
[Citizens Advisory Network - Board Information | Ben Franklin Transit \(bft.org\)](#)

1. CONVENE CAN MEETING

Vice-Chair, Dori Luzzo-Gilmour

Convened at:

2. ROLL CALL

Secretary / Recorder, Dennis Kreutz

| Representing | Attendee Name | Title | Status |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------|
| Citizen Advisory Network | Ed Frost | Chair | Zoom |
| Citizen Advisory Network | Dori Luzzo-Gilmour | Vice Chair / Recruitment Chair | Present |
| Citizen Advisory Network | Dennis Kreutz | Recording Secretary | Present |
| Citizen Advisory Network | Bernie Vinther | Member | Absent |
| Citizen Advisory Network | Brooklyn Hufstader | Member | Zoom |
| Citizen Advisory Network | Frank Cuta | Member | Present |
| Citizen Advisory Network | Laurie Price | Member | Zoom |
| Citizen Advisory Network | Nayeli Aranda | Member | Absent |
| Citizen Advisory Network | Ulises Navarro | Member | Zoom |
| Citizen Advisory Network | Vanessa Pruitt | Member | Absent |
| | | | |
| BFT Staff | Janet Brett | Manager of Communication | Present |
| BFT Staff | Tom Drozdt | CEO | Present |
| Guest | Nirbhuy Arun | Stars Technology Presenter | Present |
| Guest | Sai Ramanathan | | Present |
| Guest | Dennis Walters | Stars Technology | Present |
| Guest | Unidentified | | Present |

3. COMMENTS BY GUESTS:

Vice-Chair, Dori Luzzo-Gilmour

None

4. NOVEMBER 2024 MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL: Vice-Chair, Dori Luzzo-Gilmour

Discussion: None

Motion to Approve the Minutes by: Dennis Kreutz

Second to Approve the Minutes by: Frank Cuta

Minutes Approved unanimously by a Voice Vote of the CAN Members: YES

5. OLD BUSINESS:

Vice-Chair, Dori Luzzo-Gilmour

None

6. NEW BUSINESS:

Vice-Chair, Dori Luzzo-Gilmour

A. Report of the December 12 BFT Board Meeting – Ed Frost

B. Presentation regarding Hydrogen Production for Clean Air Vehicles by:

Dennis Walters

Chief of Staff

STARS Technology Corporation

Nirbhuy Arun

(Volunteer Intern at STARS Technology Corporation)

- a. Difference between Renewable Hydrogen and Steam- Methane production methods explained.
- b. Hydrogen powered vehicles greatly reduce particulate matter released into the atmosphere compared to carbon fuel powered vehicles.
- c. Hydrogen powered vehicles operate better in colder climates than electric vehicles.
- d. SunLine Transit Agency in Thousand Palms CA has a fleet of hydrogen powered buses and will share information with other agencies. It was noted that SunLine has struggled to maintain the fleet using their existing hydrogen fueling station built and maintained by Nel Hydrogen.
- e. It was stated that a good study to reference is:
AC Transit's Zero Emission Transit Bus Technology Analysis by Stanford University.
- f. Hydrogen powered vehicles are advantageous when considering:
Quick refueling vs Electric
Driving longer distances vs Electric
Lower emissions vs Carbon Fuel
Cost of fuel is low when low-cost renewable energy is available.
- g. Hydrogen powered vehicles are at a disadvantage when considering:
Availability of fuel source vs Electric and Carbon Fuel
Safety vs Carbon Fuel

C. In the June and September CAN Meeting we discussed email sent to CAN in June 2024 by Transit Awareness TC

BFT ACTON: BFT Response to this email is deferred to a later meeting.

CAN ACTION: Dennis Kreutz will generate a list of the unanswered questions and send it to CAN Members to evaluate and generate specific questions for BFT CEO Tom Drozdt to answer.

CAN Members will send their questions to Dennis Kreutz who will compile a list of questions and send them to BFT.

D. Nomination and Election of CAN Officers for 2025

Ed Frost nominated Dennis Kreutz as Chair.
Dori Luzzo-Gilmour nominated Vanessa Pruitt as Vice-Chair.
Dori Luzzo-Gilmour nominated Dennis Kreutz as Secretary/Recorder.

The above nominations were seconded and unanimously approved.

E. Nomination and Approval of CAN Recruitment Committee

- a. Ed Frost nominated the following.
Chair – Dori Luzzo-Gilmour
Member – Frank Cuta
Member – Dennis Kreutz

The above nominations were seconded and unanimously approved.

F. Discussion of recruitment of CAN Members

- a. It was suggested by Janet Brett that BFT can post on BFT social media and local news outlets that CAN Member Applications are being accepted.
This was approved by CAN Members.
- b. It was stressed by Dori Luzzo-Gilmour that the preference of the Recruitment Committee is that we find a high school student.

G. Assign CAN Member to attend January BFT Board Meeting:
Assigned: Dennis Kreutz

7. BFT BOARD / BFT STAFF COMMENTS:

8. CAN MEMBER COMMENTS:

None

9. OTHER:

None

10. NEXT MEETING:

Regular CAN Meeting Monday January 27, 2025, 6:00 p.m.
Ben Franklin Transit Admin Building, GM Conference Room
1000 Columbia Park Trail, Richland WA

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-Chair, Dori Luzzo-Gilmour

A. Meeting adjourned at: 7:40 PM