

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA RAPID TRANSIT DISTRICT
2150 Webster Street, P.O. Box 12688, Oakland, CA 94604-2688

BART ACCESSIBILITY TASK FORCE
Committee Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2024

1. Roll Call of Members:

1. Anita Ortega
2. Annie Koruga
3. Bruce Yow
4. Catherine Callahan
5. Clarence Fischer
6. Danny Kodmur
7. Daveed Mandell
8. Don Queen
9. Emily Witkin
10. Hillary Brown
11. Janice Armigo Brown (2nd Vice-Chair)
12. Roland Wong (Vice-Chair)
13. VACANT
14. VACANT
15. VACANT
16. VACANT
17. VACANT
18. VACANT

Quorum of seven (7) in-person BATF members. Annie Koruga and Catherine Callahan used their first out of two, “Just Cause.”

BART Customer Access and Accessibility Department Staff:

Elena Van Loo
Ryan Greene-Roesel
Bob Franklin

BART Director (s), BART Staff, Speakers, and members of the public:

Director Robert Raburn
David Cogshall (BART Staff)
Vince Bevilacqua (BART Staff)

Josephine Mitchell (Captioner)
Amy Fairchild (Captioner)
Christine Arseneault (Guest)
Herb Hastings (Guest)
Aleeta Dupree (Guest)
Tina Martin (Guest)
Seraphina Rosmamt (Guest)

2. Public Comments

Director Robert Raburn shared a legislation bill that BART Board of Directors has given their support, which hopefully will be signed by California's Governor to have hybrid meetings. The bill will remove the requirements of having an in-person quorum. He mentioned this legislation will affect the BART Board of Directors and all advisory committees under BART and this legislation would be helpful to recruit new members.

Aleta Dupree introduced herself. She stated she is a person with a different disability that is not visible. She cannot serve as an appointed member as she does not live within the BART District and has accepted this. She stated the Bay Area has not been the kindest place and added she is a real disabled US Army Vet who served in Desert Storm. She asked to be accepted as part of the disabled community even being different and wearing a skirt.

Herb Hasting spoke about the Next Generation Faregate Open House that happened just before the BATF meeting. He stated he appreciated the event that happened and mentioned he does like the design of the Next Generation faregates.

Tina Martin introduced herself and expressed interest in becoming a BATF member.

3. Approval of meeting minutes:

- **January 25, 2024**
- **February 22, 2024**

Annie Koruga moved approval of the January 25, 2024 meeting minutes. Hillary Brown second the motion.

- Motion passes with ten (10) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention

Annie Koruga moved approval of the February 22, 2024 meeting minutes. Hillary Brown second the motion.

- Motion passes with ten (10) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention

4. Elevator and Escalator preventive maintenance program

David Coggshall and Vince Bevilacqua presented on the agenda item.

David Coggshall shared the System Service hours are 6:00 am to 2:00 pm and 2:00 pm to 10:00 pm. He added between 10:00 pm to 6:00 am (Tuesday-Saturday), deeper cleanings are done.

He mentioned elevator cleanings are done by System Service Worker every two hours, on the odd hour. Elevators are checked by Station Agent (s) on even hours. If cleaning needs to be done, they complete a report so the System Service Department can address it. He also added during regular department hours, 6:00 am to 10:00 pm, System Service will respond within thirty (30) minutes.

Vince Bevilacqua shared about escalator cleaning. He mentioned escalator cleaning is done throughout their shifts by System Service Worker and they clean the handrails, escalator tops, sides, and steps, as needed.

David Coggshall went step-by-step on how to report a biohazard through the BART (Official) app.

Danny Kodmur asked about parts of the elevator and how long does it take to repair elevators. Vince Bevilacqua stated it depends what parts are needed and how fast the parts are delivered and then repaired. Vince Bevilacqua added there are more parts in escalators than there in elevators due to the fact that escalators have much more moving parts.

Daveed Mandell asked if you could report biohazard on the website and if there is a phone number you call to report biohazard within the BART system. David Coggshall mentioned you can report biohazard via BART's website, or call customer service phone number, 510-464-6000, or email BART's Customer Service, or you can report biohazard with a station agent who will follow through.

Annie Koruga thanked David Coggshall and Vince Bevilacqua for the presentation. They noticed at BART stations more cleaning is happening and appreciates this effort to keep BART clean. They asked if riders know how to report biohazards or request an elevator repair and added there should be more information on how to report issues. David Coggshall stated he and his staff will look into more public notice on how to report elevator repair requests and how to report biohazard. He also

mentioned you can report a biohazard or request an elevator repair with a station agent.

Roland Wong shared that he recently went to see a BART Station Agent and requested the elevator to be cleaned at the Hayward BART Station.

Aleeta Dupree thanked staff for the presentation. She brought up what happens if the electricity goes out at either elevator and/or with the escalators. She also asked what happens if there is an emergency in the elevator and they are stuck in the elevator. She wanted to know what are the steps if the elevator and/or escalators are out of power or what are the steps if someone is stuck in the elevator and the call button does not work.

Tina Martin thanked BART staff for all what they are doing to keep the elevators clean. She mentioned there is an elevator at Hallidie Plaza, right next to Powell St. BART Station, that has not been working for a while and would like to see this elevator working again. She acknowledged that BART does not own it, but to work with the City of San Francisco to have the Hallidie Plaza elevator working again and this would be great for more options to travel for people who uses wheelchairs.

5. New committee member nomination (s)

- **Christine Arseneault**
- **Herb Hastings**

Roland Wong, acting Chair, led the agenda item.

Christine Arseneault introduced herself and expressed why she is interested in joining the BATF Advisory Committee.

Hillary Brown moved to recommend Christine Arseneault as a BATF member. Daveed Mandell seconded the motion.

- Motion passes with ten (10) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention

Herb Hastings introduced himself and expressed why he is interested in joining the BATF Advisory Committee.

Daveed Mandell moved to recommend Herb Hastings as a BATF member. Hillary Brown seconded the motion.

- Motion passes with ten (10) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention

6. Elections of Chair and potentially Vice-Chair

Elena Van Loo and Ryan Greene-Roesel led the agenda item.

Elena Van Loo announced if Roland Wong, Vice-Chairperson, becomes the Chairperson, there will be a vote to fill in the Vice-Chairperson and if the 2nd Vice-Chair is open, then a vote will be done to fill in the 2nd Vice-Chairperson.

Chairperson election:

Roland Wong was nominated as Chairperson and he accepted.

Roland Wong gave a short speech as to why he would be a good candidate as Chairperson.

Voting results for Chairperson:

- Roland Wong – ten (10) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention (s)

Vice-Chairperson election:

Hillary Brown, Emily Witkin, and Annie Koruga nominated themselves as Vice-Chairperson.

Anita Ortega nominated Daveed Mandell as Vice-Chairperson and he accepted.

Hillary Brown, Emily Witkin, Annie Koruga, and Daveed Mandell each gave a short speech as to why they would be a good candidate for Vice-Chairperson.

Voting results for Vice-Chairperson:

- Annie Koruga – four (4) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention
- Daveed Mandell – three (3) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention
- Emily Witkin – two (2) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention
- Hillary Brown - one (1) in favor, zero (0) against, and zero (0) abstention

Janice Armigo Brown wished to remain as 2nd Vice-Chairperson. No nominations and elections needed for 2nd Vice-Chairperson.

Elena Van Loo announced the new Chairperson is Roland Wong, Vice-Chairperson, Annie Koruga, and 2nd Vice-Chairperson is Janice Armigo Brown until September

2024 when yearly nominations and elections are scheduled for Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and 2nd Vice-Chairperson.

7. Discuss potential changes under the BATF By-Laws

- **Term of Office**
- **Nomination and selection process**

Roland Wong led the agenda item.

Janice Armigo Brown, 2nd Vice-Chairperson, read out loud the BATF By-Laws for the Nomination and Selection Process.

Roland Wong would like to change the number of meetings for interested applicants from attending three out of four consecutive meetings to two meetings out of three consecutive months, which would help recruit potential members faster.

Janice Armigo Brown read out loud under, Terms of Office:

“The term for each member of the BATF shall end on June 30 of odd-numbered years or when the BART Board of Directors announces appointments and reappointments for a new term, whichever occurs later.”

Janice Armigo Brown requested more clarification under, Term of Office, due to confusion about its meaning. Elena Van Loo will reach out to the legal department to get clarification and will share at a future BATF meeting. Other members also expressed a need to better understand the meaning of the Term of Office clause.

Roland Wong requested BATF By-Laws be emailed to the BATF members and members agree to reschedule agenda item at a future meeting once they receive better understanding. Elena Van Loo will follow through with request.

8. Member announcements

Janice Armigo Brown witnessed fare evasion on her way to the meeting, which was frustrating to witness.

9. Staff announcements

Elena Van Loo mentioned 1st quarter travel reimbursements will be turned in on April 10, 2024 and to let her know of any change to RTC or Senior discount card numbers. She mentioned standard Clipper Card numbers are acceptable for travel reimbursements.

Bruce Yow asked if you are maxed out on the Clipper Card amount, will travel reimbursement be added. Elena Van Loo said it is best to call Clipper Card Customer Service and they can better assist and mentioned she does not have any access to accounts to review and she is only informed if the reimbursement does not go through.

Elena Van Loo reminded members “Just Cause,” can be used twice a year as long as there is an in-person quorum. She added travel reimbursement is not honored if using “Just Cause.”

10. Chairperson announcements

No Chairperson announcements.

11. Agenda Topics – Member Suggest Topics

- Debrief Next Generation Faregate Open House at West Oakland on March 28, 2024
- Review, discuss BATF By-Laws – Potential changes
 - Term of Office (page 3 of the BATF By-Laws)
 - more clarification needed
 - Nominations and Selection Process
 - Election of Chair, Vice-Chair, and 2nd Vice Chair (page 5 of the BATF By-Laws)
 - Term of Office
 - serve for one year or until the next election
 - limit the year (s) as Officers
 - Other possible change (s)
- Update the process of the Next Generation faregate installments
- Hallidie Plaza elevator at Powell station update
 - Elevator belongs to City of San Francisco
 - Been out-of-order for a number of years

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 pm until the next regularly scheduled meeting, Thursday, April 25, 2024 at 2pm.