

**TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY
WORK STUDY MEETING
MINUTES
October 4, 2012**

Library Auditorium
7401 E. Civic Circle
Prescott Valley, Arizona 86314

1. Call to Order

Mayor Skoog called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Council Member Whiting, Mayor Skoog, Vice Mayor Tjiema, Council Member Mallory, Council Member Lasker, and Council Member Anderson.

Absent: Council Member Nye.

3. Discussion regarding the Greater Arizona Mayors Association (GAMA)

The Greater Arizona Mayors Association, which Prescott Valley joined 2 years ago, is an organization representing the Greater Arizona rural municipalities in northern Arizona. The Mayors have come together to discuss issues that are germane to those communities using this organization to exert lobbying pressure in Phoenix with the legislators.

The 3 items being discussed a week from tomorrow and looking for endorsements from the Mayors are: a) repeal HB 2826 and restore the old consolidation election dates, b) repeal HB 2643 - the public safety officers benefit package, and c) urge the Arizona Legislature to renew its support of the Arizona state parks system.

After a brief discussion of each issue, council members expressed their support of each issue as stated above. Council members suggested the Mayor send a letter to the legislators asking them to stay out of town business and leave running municipal matters to the municipalities.

4. Presentation regarding a Yavapai Regional Transit Proposal - Chris Bridges (CYMPO) and Liz Toone (New Horizons)

Chris Bridges (CYMPO) introduced Liz Toone (New Horizon), Ron Romley (CYMPO Board member from Chino Valley), Vicky McLane (CYMPO) and Sherry Romley. The funding source for this application is different from what has come from CYMPO in the past. The source is called section 5311 which is received by the applicants directly from ADOT (i.e. Chino Valley). Bridges continued that they are looking for a partnership between Chino Valley and New Horizons and expanding it. There is no local government involvement required as a part of the

system. This proposal is a public/private partnership leveraging federal funding with an innovative funding structure for which he has not located a similar model. The goal is to form a nonprofit organization soliciting sponsorships, advertisements, branding rights and the like which will then become tax deductible. The proposed service would include the Town of Prescott Valley, Prescott and Chino Valley with operations Monday thru Friday 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. A 501(c)(3) is the funding mechanism that will oversee fund raising. The role of ADOT and CYMPO is to provide technical, planning and guidance assistance. The ADOT 5311 application is due December 7, 2012. Between now and then, the group will solicit letters of support.

Mr. Ron Romley, Chairman of the Chino Valley Transit Advisory Board, stated that Chino Valley's system has surpassed the expectations and they are beginning their third year of a deviated fixed route system. They will pick up people from their homes, have 15 bus stops in town with 5 on the regional route and are willing to drop off people en route. The buses are almost full every day. Many passengers have wanted to come to Prescott Valley for doctor's appointments, the event center and especially the movies. They are currently unable to provide that service. Since then they have partnered with New Horizons who know what the transportation needs are for this community. For every dollar spent on the bus it brings \$36 into their destination.

Ms. Liz Toone of New Horizons added that they provided 20,000 rides in the last 12 months mainly for those that are elderly, handicapped etc. As a nonprofit they also do job development in the area. People can find a job but they have no way of getting there. This transit system could help a lot of people get on their feet.

Mr. Romley explained that a deviated fix route is one where you deviate to pick up someone from the bus route and then continue along the route. The Yavapai Regional Transit (YRT) system will be a public transit system for all. New Horizons will be kept separate from this entity and will continue to serve under, and honor, their contract or may subcontract to the new 501(c)(3). They will continue offering door to door rides with the now 11 buses they have, soon to be 15.

Vice Mayor Tjiema questioned whether there would be communication between the three systems (Chino Valley Transit, Prescott Transit and New Horizons). Mr. Romley responded that they have discussed getting radios for dispatching purposes. They now use volunteer riders who assist the riders and do the paperwork so the drivers can stay on schedule.

Council members Mallory and Lasker in are in favor of submitting a letter of support. The committee will ask for a letter of support from each municipality. These letters from the councils and the businesses will assist with the application process through ADOT. Chris Bridges explained that this concept does not exist as yet, but will show ADOT that they are in favor of it. The letter of support will help sell the project. CYMPO has already drafted a letter of their support for this project. They have seen a lot of enthusiasm, but no funding as yet.

Council member Whiting questioned if sponsorship/funding has been provided from YRMC or Yavapai Indian Tribe. Ms. Toone explained that they are talking to people right now who are interested in pursuing this project. They still need the match money for the federal funds coming

through ADOT. Through this process they are asking how much money each of the sponsors can commit to. If they get enough for the start-up then they will push forward and get a letter of commitment. There is a lot of enthusiasm, but all want more follow-up information. Council member Mallory said they have done a wonderful job and she thinks they will succeed.

Mayor Skoog adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.

5. *Adjournment*

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Diane Russell, Town Clerk

Harvey Skoog, Mayor

STATE OF ARIZONA)
COUNTY OF YAVAPAI) ss:
TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY)

CERTIFICATE OF COUNCIL MINUTES

I, Diane Russell, Town Clerk of the Town of Prescott Valley, Arizona, hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Work Study Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Prescott Valley, held on Thursday, October 4, 2012.

I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this October 10, 2012

Diane Russell, Town Clerk