ATTENDEES:
Fred Roberge, Chair – Easterseals NH
Lisa Ludwigsen – Easterseals NH
Elida Gagne – St Joseph Cmty Services
Richard O'Shaughnessy – Salem Caregivers
Helen Kostrzynski – RNMOW
George Sioras – Derry
James Wilkie – CareGivers NH
Scott Bogle – RPC
Nate Miller – SNHPC
Sylvia von Aulock – SNHPC
Adam Hlasny – SNHPC

1. Call to Order
Chair Fred Roberge called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM. He read a statement pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04 authorizing the RCC to meet electronically.

Motion by George to approve August minutes, seconded by Scott and approved unanimously.

3. Carryover Items from August RCC Meeting
Nate noted that there is $12,270 in available 5310 carryover funding from FY20. Easterseals has made a request for a $5.12 increase in hourly rate to cover increased driver pay/benefits. RNMOW is considering adding service hours in Auburn, Candia, and Raymond, but as the funding is one-time only, will need to think more about potential match and whether the service can be sustained. Fred noted that Easterseals provides some service in Auburn and Candia, and that there should be more coordination before a new service is implemented.

Motion by Scott to use $6,588 of the $12,270 available for Easterseals’ needs, seconded by George and carried unanimously with Fred abstaining.

Motion by Scott to use the remaining $5,682 for a potential service expansion project for RNMOW, with an exact implementation model to be discussed further with Deb Perou and Helen as soon as possible, seconded by George and carried unanimously with Helen abstaining.

There was a brief update discussion on providers’ Title VI programs. Jim reported that CareGivers Inc has made progress but is working out how to fit a volunteer driver program into a template geared more to transit providers. Nate noted that RLS Associates is available to offer technical assistance on draft Title VI plans before submittal to NHDOT.
4. FTA 5310 Capital Solicitation
Nate said that RNMOW is the only potential applicant from Region 8-9. Upon further discussion, Helen said that to the best of her knowledge RNMOW decided at the last minute not to apply for a vehicle through this program after all.

5. FY 2021 Outreach Items
Fred said that components of the existing Easterseals workplan are valuable, and that he will begin to devote more time to updating the 2016 provider list that Adam had put into an editable format.

Sylvia reported that much has been learned from the Volunteer Driver Program (VDP) survey that was administered over the summer. The #1 need reported by VDPs was greater quantities of volunteers. On that note, Sylvia reported that SNHPC had recently been awarded $4,000 in an AARP grant to facilitate virtual volunteer fairs across the region in partnership with VDPs and local libraries. She has begun to make calls, and already has two VDPs (CareGivers Inc. and CVTC, which services Francestown) and two libraries (Auburn and Francestown) on board. She will attempt to recruit Londonderry as well, as it is the only town served by two VDPs.

6. Other Business
Scott said that he has gone back through the survey instruments used in 2016 for the Region 9 Coordinated Plan for providers, municipal welfare officers, and other health and human service agencies providing transportation. The Region 8 lists must be added to ensure consistent distribution of the surveys across the full joint region. Scott has added a couple of COVID-related questions to the provider survey and will share with the RCC.

For next steps, the RPCs will update the municipal contacts on the list, RCC members will provide input on other human service agency edits/additions/subtractions, and Fred will follow up with calls to non-participating providers in an attempt to bring them to the RCC table.

There was some discussion of the potential for NHDOT to convert $550,000 of CMAQ funds to community transportation priorities. Of this, $120,000 could go to hiring a statewide mobility manager, likely a consultant rather than a state employee. The remaining $430,000 could be put out to RCCs to determine the funds’ best use. The SCC will be discussing this further at their November 5, 2020 meeting and perhaps beyond.

7. Next Meeting
The next meeting was not discussed due to time constraints, but the next regularly scheduled meeting would take place on December 22, 2020, 2:00pm.

Meeting stood adjourned at 3:30 PM.

MINUTES APPROVED: 1/26/21