



FERRY COMMITTEE

MINUTES (DRAFT)

July 29th, 2026

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

- A. **Call to Order:** The Chair's representative, Aaron Clausen (Lynn), called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM over Zoom.
- B. **Minutes:** The Chair requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 27th, 2026 meeting. Corey Evans (Cohasset) moved to approve the minutes and Art Robert (Hingham) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. **Ferry Tour:** The committee discussed a potential upcoming tour of the Commonwealth Pier ferry loop, and August 31st, 2026 was the agreed upon date.
- D. **Summer Update:** MBTA Ferry Operations Director David Perry joined to speak with the committee regarding summer routes and operating dates, a recent fire on the Champion ferry, new advertising wraps on ferries, the Hingham Dock improvements project, the new Harbor Loop route, the 2026 Sail Boston event, and ridership statistics.

- a. C. Evans clarified that although weekday ridership has decreased following Covid, weekend ridership has surpassed pre-Covid numbers, D. Perry confirmed, noted that average daily ridership on the weekends, especially on the Lynn route, exceeded that of average daily ridership on weekdays. C. Evans inquired about whether or not there was data available about the economic impact of a weekend rider or tourist versus economic impact of a weekday commuter. D. Perry responded that he did not have the data but would look into it. C. Evans elaborated that he didn't want the lower weekday ridership to be used as reason to defund or de-emphasize ferry service. D. Perry agreed, saying that this years number would prove the importance of the ferry.
- b. Frank Tramontozzi (Quincy) noted that this past weekend riders from Quincy were left on the dock in Quincy and Boston, despite the lack of events happening in Boston. D. Perry responded that although he had heard of riders being left on the dock at Squantum Point in Quincy, he had not heard about riders being left in Boston, and he would look into the issue. He noted that this is one of the challenges faced by a service loop, as at any given point the ferry will have inbound and outbound passengers, limiting the amount of people able to board. F. Tramontozzi asked whether there were any unused ferries that could be available for additional capacity. D. Perry responded that all boats were being used to their maximum capability, and that there was minimal flexibility for extra boats or extra service. He then noted that he has asked ferry operators to

tabulate riders left behind, which he will then use to ask for additional ferry service in the coming year. D. Perry offered a potential explanation for increased ridership being festivals in the North End.

- c. F. Tramontozzi asked how much revenue the ad campaign with Dunkin Donuts had generated. D. Perry responded that the ferry wraps were part of a \$600,000 ad campaign centering on the wraps but involving electronic and physical sign advertisement as well. D. Perry added that as part of the campaign, Dunkin Donuts had supplied \$5 gift cards which were being handed out on the ferries by MBTA employees.
- E. **Next Meeting:** Next Meeting August 31st at a time to be determined.
- F. **Adjourn:** With all business transacted, Hanna Switekowski (MBTA Advisory Board) thanked D. Perry for joining and the chair adjourned the meeting at 10:50 AM.

Attendees:

Committee Members:

Cohasset	Corey Evans
Hingham	Art Robert
Lynn	Aaron Clausen
Salem	Bill McHugh
Quincy	Frank Tramontozzi

MBTA

David Perry	MBTA Ferry Operations
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MBTA Advisory Board

Hanna Switekowski	Deputy Director
Isabella MacKinnon	Budget & Policy Analyst
Theo Braatz	Intern