

BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order:

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at 9:00 a.m. at New Britain Township, on May 7, 2015, and called to order by Consortium President Eileen M. Bradley.

Roll Call and Introductions:

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

Eileen M. Bradley, New Britain Township
Angela P. Benner, New Britian Township
John McMenamin, Lower Southampton Township
John Boyle, Yardley Borough
Jamie Gwynn, Northampton Township
Linda McNeill, Tinicum Township
Carolyn McCreary, Plumstead Township
Caroline Brinker, Doylestown Borough
Bob Pellegrino, Northampton Township
Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township
Bill Cmorey, Bensalem Township
Christian Jones, Warrington Township
Joseph Golden, Upper Southampton Township
Scott Sadowsky, Northampton Township / Middletown Township
Joe Galdo, Lower Southampton Township
Bob Bender, North Wales Water Authority
Virginia Wheeler, Warminster Municipal Authority
Judy Decker, West Rockhill Township
Bill Wert, Dublin Borough
Dana Cozza, Buckingham Township

Sponsors:

Jim Gray, RBC Capital Markets
Brian Bradley, RBC Capital Markets
Dan Reitz, Beirne Wealth Consulting
Alan Herr, HPT Systems

Approval of Minutes – May 7, 2015:

Upon motion by Bill Wert, seconded by Bob Pellegrino, the Minutes of May 7, 2015 were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:

Eileen Bradley reviewed the details of the Treasurer's Reports. Upon motion by Caroline Brinker, seconded by Linda McNeil, the Treasurer's Report for May 2015 was approved as presented.

Presentation: Dan Reitz, Beirne Wealth Consulting, LLC

Ms. Bradley introduced Dan Reitz, Managing Director of Beirne Wealth Consulting, LLC.

Mr. Reitz presented the Consortium with information on the differences between indexing versus active management of Municipal Pension Plans. Mr. Reitz stated that when buying an index, you are buying all constituents of that index. Indexed funds will outperform in long steep, bull market rallies, whereas active managers tend to outperform during steep declines.

Presentation: Ronald H. Bittner, Univest Municipal Pension Services

Ms. Bradley introduced Ronald H. Bittner, CPA, Vice President, and Senior Consultant of Univest Municipal Services.

Mr. Bittner stated that Univest combines a pension investment approach with the service side of pension plans. Univest will develop an Investment Policy Statement showing an assets model. Then Univest will implement a platform of mutual and exchange funds. They have the ability to hire and fire account managers to maintain the platform. In addition, Mr. Bittner stated that Univest monitors and compares benchmarks for their clients in addition to reporting the performance and changes in the market to their client.

On the service side, Mr. Bittner stated that Univest incorporates GASB 67 and 68 reporting, and discloses exposure of long term returns, reports the investment policy target, and the long term rate of return.

Presentation: Michael B. Glackin, InR

Ms. Bradley introduced Michael B. Glackin, CFP, AIF, and President of InR Investment Advisors.

Mr. Glackin stated that InR has an all-market index approach targeting an assumed interest rate. InR has been compliant with GASB 67 and 68 reporting since inception. The ultimate goal is to hit the assumed interest rate in their Pension and 457 plans. Mr. Glackin stated that he wants his clients to have the ability to defend their investment choices. InR treats all their 457 clients the same as their pension clients. InR manages 457 plans for expected income based on how much an individual wants per month when they retire. Using this number they use the same expected returns as the pension plans.

Discussion:

TIP in Bucks County: Ms. Bradley stated that members of the Executive Committee met with Lynn Bush of the Bucks County Planning Commission to discuss the TIP. During the meeting, Lynn Bush explained that the TIP was once a “wish list” that the County maintained, wherein municipalities would submit wanted projects that the County would vet and pass on to the State level. Recently, the State wants to see projects that are ready for construction. The Executive Committee suggested that the County continue to maintain a wish list at the County level. Mr. Pellegrino stated that he suggested that Lynn Bush attend a BCATO meeting to discuss the TIP with elected officials.

Salary Survey: Ms. Benner stated that there was excellent turnout for the various training sessions that were held at DVIT for inputting information into the Salary Survey. Jamie Gwynn stated that he would like to see all municipalities have their salary information data input into the online system by June 19.

Community Updates:

BCATO: Jamie Gwynn announced that BCATO held their first Membership Outreach meeting in May. Mr. Gwynn also stated that he had been approached by some Boroughs about joining BCATO and would be discussing this at the next BCATO meeting.

On September 24, 2015, BCATO would be holding an Educational Meeting. Mr. Gwynn stated that pending the State's decision, medical marijuana could be the main topic. The Education Meeting would be finalized over the next few months.

Other Business:

There was no other business at this time.

Adjournment:

Being no other business, Eileen M. Bradley adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting was scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on September 3, 2015 at Warrington Township.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela P. Benner
Consortium Coordinator