

BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM

Thursday, November 3, 2016

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order:

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at 12:00 p.m. at the Doylestown Country Club on November 3, 2016 and called to order by Consortium President William Wert.

2. Roll Call, Introductions and Community Updates:

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

Scott Swichar, Bristol Township
Dana Cozza, Buckingham Township
Sandra Zadell, Chalfont Borough
John Davis, Chalfont Borough
Caroline Brinker, Chalfont Borough
Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township
Autumn Canfield, Doylestown Township
Bill Wert, Dublin Borough
Scott Mitchell, Langhorne Borough
John McMenamin, Lower Southampton Township
Joe Galdo, Lower Southampton Township
Stephanie Teoli Kuhls, Middletown Township
Scott Sadowsky, Middletown Township
Brian Shapiro, Middletown Township
Jeffrey Vey, Milford Township
Angela Benner, New Britain Township
Eileen Bradley, New Britain Township
Cathie Thomas, New Hope Borough
Bob Pellegrino, Northampton Township
Jamie Gwynn, Northampton Township
Mike Soloman, Northampton Township
Carolyn McCreary, Plumstead Township
Andrew DeColli, Plumstead Township
Paul Stepanoff, Richland Township
Mark Fournier, Telford Borough
Alison Smith, Tullytown Borough
Herb Schoell, Upper Southampton Water & Sewer Authority
Janet Kimball, Upper Southampton Water & Sewer Authority
Joseph Golden, Upper Southampton Township
Ann Alker, Upper Southampton Township
Greg Schuster, Warminster Township
Amanda Zimmerman, Warminster Township
Tim Hagey, Warminster Authority
Barry Lubber, Warrington Township
Vivian Bell, Warrington Township
Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township

Sponsors:

Chris Englebert, Beirne Wealth Consulting
Brian Jeter, Comcast
Bob Solarz, DVIT
Tom Hough, Hough Associates

Elisabeth Sibley, Hough Associates
Ryan Ingham, Hough Associates
Alan Herr, HPT Systems
Meg Toner, HPT Systems
Jeff Hugo, InR Advisors
Chris Tomlinson, InR Advisors
Dan Woglom, Lafayette Meyner Center
Dan Reaby, McMahon Associates
Brad Remig, PFM
Jamie Schlesinger, PFM
Dan O'Brien, RBC Capital Markets
Jim Gray, RBC Capital Markets
Michael Davisson, Uninvest
David Ohman, Uninvest
Sal Urbano, Virtual Towns and Schools
Chuck Raudenbush, Waste Mangement

3. Presentation: Robert G. Loughery, Bucks County

Mr. Wert introduced Bucks County Commissioner Robert G. Loughery.

Budget: Commissioner Loughery talked about the County Budget stating that the County is in a strong financial position. The pension is 95% funded and the county has 2AAA ratings. The County stays disciplined with making difficultion payments. The reserve fund is 10% of the 53 million dollar budget. Some of the challenges that the County faced with this budget is a big increase in the County's debt service from the new court house. 2017 will be the highest peak in debt service with a \$5 million increase, however the debt service will start to come down in 2018. 75% of the budget is in the human services area.

Child and Youth: There is a 110% increase in Child and Youth Reporting. The reporting requirements for Child and Youth are more strict and due to the new requirements the County is losing social workers from the pressure and stress of the case loads. To help with this the County is starting a pilot mobile flex time workforce.

Area Agency on Aging: Elderly population and the needs of the elderly are increasing. The department is experience a higher stress level and too many cases.

County Prison: Commissioner Loughery stated that there is an overcrowding problem in the County correctional system. A large part of the overcrowding is drug and alcohol related. The Commissioner stated that the County started a pilot program in the prison with Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Treatment. These individuals are not placed in the general population and instead are in treatment areas. The first round has been succesful with the pilot program.

Open Space Program: Commissioner Loughery reminded everyone that the deadline for the County Open Space Program was December 2016 and applications need to be submitted as soon as possible. The Commissioner stated that the Agriculture Preservation will continue.

\$5 Vehicle Registration Fee: Commissioner Loughery stated that through an Ordiance in 2015 a \$5 vehicle registration fee went into effect in 2016. The County Fee will provide additional funding for the County Bridge's. The County wants to be proactive with bridges to prevent deteriorating. Eileen Bradley requested that the County provide a 1 – 2 year lead on the schedule of bridges to be fixed. Commissioner Loughery said it is hard to provide a 2 year notice, but will work on providing information to municipalities sooner.

Old Court House: The County will be re-using the old court house and consolidate facilities that are located off premise into the building. This will make County services centrally located in the County.

Mark Fournier asked where the County is with starting up their Electronic Recycling program again. Commissioner Loughery stated that because of legislation it makes it impossible to do because of cost issues.

4. Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Mark Fournier, seconded by Caroline Brinker, the Minutes of October 6, 2016 were approved as presented.

5. Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:

Bill Wert reviewed the treasurer's report for October 2016. Upon motion by Eileen Bradley, seconded by Bob Pellegrino, the Treasurer's Report for October 2016 was approved.

6. Discussion: There was no Discussion at this time.

7. Other Business:

2017 APMM Scholarship Announcement: Mr. Wert announced that the Consortium will once again offer the APMM Scholarship for 2017. Ms. Benner will be sending out the information to all municipalities in the upcoming weeks.

Bucks and Montco Joint Holiday Part: Mr. Wert reminded everyone that the Bucks Consortium will be hosting this year's joint holiday party at the Spring Mill Country Club on Dec. 2nd from 1pm – 4pm. RSVPs are due by November 21, 2016.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 2, 2017 at Warwick Township.

Submitted,

Angela P. Benner
Consortium Coordinator