BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM MEETING MINUTES Thursday, April 4, 2024

Call to Order:

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at 9:25 a.m. at the Northampton Valley County Club on April 4, 2024, and called to order by Consortium President, Becki Marencik.

Roll Call, Introductions and Community Updates:

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

Jessica Ireland, Bristol Township Megan Abbott, Bristol Township Kevin Dippolito, Bristol Township Shawn Curran, Chalfont Borough Darrell Card, Chalfont Borough Caroline Brinker, Doylestown Borough Stephanie Mason, Doylestown Township Andrea Susten, Doylestown Township Tim Hartman, Falls Township Authority John Ryba, Falls Township Authority Peter Kim, Falls Township Authority Dave Kratzer, Lower Makefield Township Barry Luber, Lower Makefield Township Ashley Casey, Middletown Township Mega Bhandary, Middletown Township Nick Valla, Middletown Township Devan Ambron, Milford Township Mical Lewis, Newton Township Katherine McGovern, Newton Township Bob Pellegrino, Northampton Township Bill Wert, Northampton Township Angela Benner, Plumstead Township Kris Barndt, Quakertown Borough Don Williams, Upper Southampton Township Mark Sarson, Upper Southampton Township John Ramey, Warminster Township Mike Walsh, Warminster Township

Timothy Hagey, Warminster Township Municipal Authority
Daulton George, Warminster Township Municipal Authority
Lee Greenberg, Warrington Township
Kyle Seckinger, Warwick Township
Becki Marencik, Warwick Township
Stacy Mulholland, Wrightstown Township
Paula Johnson, Yardley Borough
Patty Sargent, Yardley Borough

Sponsors:

Kathy Markloff, Barry Isett & Associates
Caitlin Mest, Barry Isett & Associates
Rick Mellor, Delaware Valley Insurance Trust
Nicole Pizzo, Delaware Valley Insurance Trust
Beth Kaufman, Equitable Advisors
Brian Burk, Equitable Advisors
Judy Goldstein, Gilmore & Associates
Amanda Fuller, Gilmore & Associates
Steve Noll, TMA Bucks
Anna Linn, Univest/Girard Pension Services
Tracey Carroll, William Penn Bank

Sponsors Spotlight:

None.

Annual State Legislature Update

Ms. Marencik welcomed everyone to the Bucks County Consortium Annual Legislative Update meeting. The following participated in the legislative panel:

- State Senator Frank Farry (District 6)
- Representative Kristin Marcell (District 178)
- Representative Tim Brennan (District 29)
- Representative Joe Hogan (District 142)
- Representative Brian Munroe (District 144)
- Representative James Prokopiak (District 140)
- Senator Steven Santarsiero Staff Member, Shannon Stricker (District 10)
- Representative Perry Warren's Constituent Services Advisor, Emily Fisher (District 31

The following topics were discussed amongst the panelist and the membership:

Senator Frank Farry provided a Senate Update and a brief update on the recent hearing held at Middletown Township on the Sterling Act. Senator Farry also provided an update on the Fire and Emergency Service milage rate incentives.

Representative Kristin Marcell noted that she has been working with Senator Farry and Representative Brennan on the State budget and encouraging workface in our communities. She noted some of the current House Bills that she is working on is specifically incentive programs for nursing and cosmologist programs with our community colleges.

Representative Tim Brennan provided a brief background to the membership and shared some of the issues that he is working on which included affordable housing within our communities, increasing state services to local municipalities, police, and emergency services. He noted that he is working on a House Bill to create short and long-term pension for firefighters after 10 years of service.

Representative Joe Hogan discussed that he is working with Representative Shelby Labs on funding for school safety and School Resource Officers (SROs) within our schools. He also touched on other issues he is working on such as, firearms training and keeping law enforcement safety.

Representative Brian Munroe provided a brief background and his focus and goals as State Representative which include public safety, safety for all fire and emergency services and police departments. He shared that he was recently appointed to the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC), which established certification and training standards for municipal police officers in Pennsylvania.

Representative James Prokopiak provided a brief background as he recently won special election in February to fill the remainder of the term vacated by John Galloway. Representative Prokopiak comes to the job with a wealth of experience, having served on the Falls Township Board of Supervisors and on the Pennsbury School District board. The 140th Legislative District is comprised of Falls, Morrisville, Tullytown and part of Middletown in Bucks County.

Staff members from both Senator Steven Santarsiero and Representative Perry Warren's office shared information and House Bills that Senator Santarsiero and Representative Warren are currently working on.

Senator Steven Santarsiero's Staff Member, Shannon Stricker noted that Senator Santarsiero recently held a task force meeting earlier this week at the Lower Makefield Township Community Center which was impacted by the flood last summer in Bucks County. She explained that the goal of the task force is to study existing statutes recommending policies for more affordable flood insurance for PA residents, who have been experiencing more-frequent storms with rising temperatures.

The membership had a discussion with the legislative panelist on various Senate House Bills and issues that they would like to see the Senators and State Representatives assist municipalities with.

Ms. Marencik thanked each of the Senators and State Representatives for their time and being able to participate in today's meeting.

Treasurer's Report and Payment of Bills:

Upon motion by Bob Pelligrino, seconded by Angela Benner, the Treasurer's Report for March 2024, was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon motion by Caroline Brinker, seconded by John Ramey, the March 7, 2024, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

<u>Adjournment:</u>

Mrs. Marencik announced that the next Bucks County Consortium meeting will be held at Doylestown Township on Thursday, May 2, 2024.

Mrs. Marencik also noted that the Annual Bucks County Consortium Picnic will be on Friday, June 7, 2024, at the Warwick Brew Farm. Registration information will be announced.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Casey

Consortium Coordinator