

Capitol Region Council of Governments

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POLICY BOARD MEETING CRRA Trash Museum February 27, 2008 Noon

Policy Board Attendance

Melody Currey, Chair
Dick Hines
Jon Colman
Joyce Stille
Dick Barlow
Scott Kaupin
John Adams
Jim Boucher
Lee Erdmann
Lou Spadaccini
David Nagel
John Salomone
Barbara Gilbert
David Pinney
Steve Werbner
Bonnie Therrien
Peter Souza
Steve Wawruck

Town/Organization

East Hartford
Avon
Bloomfield
Bolton
Canton
Enfield
Granby
Hartford
Hartford
Manchester
Newington
Newington
Rocky Hill
Somers
Tolland
Wethersfield
Windsor
Windsor Locks

Others Present

Pete Smith

Rome Smith & Associates

Staff

Cheryl Assis
Jennifer Carrier
Mary Ellen Kowalewski
Jocelyn Mathiasen
Tom Maziarz
Deborah Rihm
Lyle Wray

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Call to Order

Chair Currey called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

Public Comments

Mike Barton from Journey Home thought that they were on the agenda. They will be on the agenda in March.

Adoption of Minutes from January 23, 2008 Regular Meeting

Mr. Colman made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2008 regular meeting with changes. Ms. Therrien seconded. Under the Executive Director's report, the sentence that reads "Mr. Hines suggested Bill Farley" should read "Mr. Hines said that Bill Farley should be considered." All voted in favor of the motion.

Reports

Chair & Executive Director

The Executive Director and Chair gave their reports. A question was asked if our legislative agenda was sent out yet to all the legislators. If it has not, it will be sent out shortly.

MetroHartford Alliance

Jeff Vose gave the good news that there will not be an increase in dues this year. Also HYPE will be free to all municipalities.

Capital Workforce Partners

Tom Phillips talked about House Bills 5108 and 5103 and the WIRED initiative.

Community Development Committee/Municipal Services

Mary Ellen Kowalewski said that the new Chair of the CDC is Susan Karp. Ms. Kowalewski is encouraging more municipalities to join. They meet one time every two months. They will be working on the Journey Home implementation and energy initiatives to promote conservation.

Jocelyn Mathiasen spoke briefly about budgeting staff across towns. She is still waiting to receive information from some towns.

Bonnie Therrien said that she hopes to continue to receive funds for the service sharing programs.

Public Safety Council

The JAG grant committee met and the application is being written. The idea is to purchase equipment for each of the communities that have a common purpose and is in alignment with our mutual aid agreement and the new service sharing initiatives.

The Red Plan Training videos have been mailed out. There were questions about the Reverse 911 problem at UCONN and discussions ensued. (Chair Currey had to leave the meeting at 12:40 p.m. to attend another meeting, so Vice Chair Adams took over running the meeting at this time.)

CRCOG Homeland Security Grant Initiative

- FY 2007- CRCOG has begun the process with DEMHS and has already held several of the SWOT analyses for ESF-1 Transportation, ESF-4 Fire, along with ESF-10 HazMat, and ESF-9 Urban Search and Rescue. The Police and EMS

sessions have been scheduled for March. CRCOG's Regional Homeland Security Planner is conducting each session.

- FY 2008 - DEMHS Region 3 has been identified as Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) eligible, which means we will be competing for \$351 million in FY 08 UASI funds with 53 other regions. We were just briefed on this on Monday and there will be a three-day technical assistance session in early March that CRCOG staff will attend. DEMHS also received information on a new grant on Friday. Ms. Assis will send applications to each CEO with instructions. The eligible applicants are non-profit organizations at high risk of international terrorist attack that are located in a UASI region. Each would be eligible to apply for up to \$75K and would need to demonstrate a 25% match. Application deadline is April 11.

Transportation Committee

It was reported that they are working with ConnDOT for the special STP Urban Program planning. It is still not in place yet.

Transmission Briefing II by CL&P

CL&P is working regionally holding open houses on their Greater Springfield, Interstate, Rhode Island and Central Connecticut Reliability projects. Another way to stay informed of what is going on is to visit their website at www.transmission-nu.com/residential/.

Report on Shared Services Grant

CRCOG was excited to hear that we received almost \$5.2 million of the \$8 million available from OPM for shared service initiatives. Public safety and IT received big amounts of the grant. The money has to be out of OPM by July 1st and then we have another 12 months to spend it. There was a question about whether other towns could join in on certain projects even if they weren't part of the original application, and the answer was, it depends upon the project. CRCOG has questions that OPM needs to answer. We are not sure who the project manager is – the towns, CRCOG or OPM.

Consent Agenda

- a. Authorizing Resolution for Grant Application for Justice Assistance Local Law Enforcement (JAGLLE) Pilot Program
- b. REPT Appointment Resolution

Ms. Therrien made a motion to approve the items on the consent agenda. Ms. Stille seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Resolution Authorizing the Route 175/Fenn Road/Route 9/Ella Grasso Blvd Traffic Circulation and Accessibility Study

Ms. Carrier gave a brief presentation on this study. During this study it became clear there are opportunities to apply short-term recommendations to improve safety and accessibility. Mr. Colman made a motion to approve the resolution. Ms. Therrien seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Resolution Authorizing Contract with Broker for Office Space

Three interviews were held for office procurement. Cushman and Wakefield seemed to be the best fit. Ms. Therrien made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to sign an agreement with Cushman & Wakefield for office space brokerage services. Ms.

Gilbert seconded. DISCUSSION: Is there cost associated with using an agency? We will most likely end up with a better lease. All voted in favor of the motion.

Legislative Update

Pete Smith said there have been a lot of subcommittee meetings and public hearings. Healthcare has been a big issue with the concept of municipalities going into the state health plan. There was a discussion about how unhappy we were with the premise of OPM wanting at least 50% of towns participating in each project for the shared services initiative. That is difficult for us with 29 towns. The re-organization of DOT is another hot topic this session.

Adjournment

Ms. Stille made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:07 p.m. Mr. Erdmann seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.