

Capitol Region Council of Governments

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POLICY BOARD REGULAR MEETING CRRA Trash Museum January 27, 2010 Noon

Policy Board Attendance

Melody Currey, Chair
Dick Hines
Jon Colman
Joyce Stille
Dick Barlow
Dave Kilbon
Scott Kaupin
Kathy Eagen
Chip Beckett
John Adams
Lou Spadaccini
Barbara Gilbert
Mary Glassman
John Pelkey
Tom Frenaye
Steve Werbner
John Ward
Ron Van Winkle
Jeff Bridges
Peter Souza
Steve Wawruck

Town/Organization

East Hartford
Avon
Bloomfield
Bolton
Canton
East Granby
Enfield
Farmington
Glastonbury
Granby
Manchester
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
South Windsor
Suffield
Tolland
Vernon
West Hartford
Wethersfield
Windsor
Windsor Locks

Guests

Marie O'Brien
Mike Cicchetti
Becky Nolan
Pete Smith

CDA
OPM
MetroHartford Alliance
Rome, Smith & Lutz

Others Present

Grayson Wright
Paul Nonnenmacher

Conn DOT
CRRA

Staff

Cheryl Assis
Winsome Barnaby
Jennifer Carrier
Mary Ellen Kowalewski

CRCOG
CRCOG
CRCOG
CRCOG

Jen March-Wackers	CRCOG
Tom Maziarz	CRCOG
Debby Rihm	CRCOG
Lyle Wray	CRCOG

Call to Order

Chair Currey called the meeting to order at 12:13 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes

Mr. Colman made a motion to adopt the minutes from the December 16, 2009 meeting. Mr. Kilbon seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Reports

- a. Executive Director/Chairman
\$150 million of federal transportation money should become available nationwide shortly. The Foundation just held a meeting on potential funders. The Policy Board was okay with CRCOG adding the Foundation to the CRCOG website.
- b. MetroHartford Alliance
Becky Nolan, MHA, gave the report this month. They are publishing a monthly newsletter highlighting one town per month. Please contact them if you are not receiving your newsletter. Oz Griebel, CEO, will formally announce he is running for Governor tomorrow.
- c. Community Development/Municipal Services/Purchasing Council
The Policy Board is holding a planning retreat on February 24 and these Committee responses to the survey were very helpful. CRCOG has literature to help people in towns fill out the census information. Towns may distribute this information at local events. Banners are also available.
- d. Public Safety/Homeland Security
They are putting together a draft 08 spending plan for the homeland security funding which will go to CREPC in February and Policy Board in March. It will concentrate on sustainment and enhancement of current projects similar to the 07 plan. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Manchester Regional Operations Center on February 18 with Congressman Larson and Commissioner Boynton offices.
- e. Transportation Committee
Jon Colman thanked Tom Maziarz for his 28 years of service to CRCOG and talked about all the projects that CRCOG does that has such an impact that people do not even realize. A cake was served in Mr. Maziarz's honor.

Marie O'Brien, President, CT Development Authority (CDA)

Ms. O'Brien gave a brochure that explains what CDA does. They can help municipalities get funds immediately so they are able to float bonds for capital items. They worked on projects such as the University of Hartford, and Goodwin College.

Michael Cicchetti, Deputy Secretary, OPM

Mr. Cicchetti gave a PowerPoint presentation about the fiscal challenges. The state pensions are underfunded. TAR should be on the next bond agenda, only we don't know when the Bond Commission will meet again. ECS grants are staying level with the stimulus money. Local leaders need more control over employee benefit budgets.

Transportation TIP Amendments

Mr. Maziarz explained the amendments which were passed through the Transportation Committee on Monday. Mr. Colman made a motion to approve the TIP amendments. Mr. Adams seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Extension of MOU with CADH for Digital Health Departments Grant

Mr. Colman made a motion to approve the extension resolution. Mr. Kilbon seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

State and Federal Legislative Update

Mr. Adams reviewed CRCOG's state and federal legislative agenda. Mr. Kilbon made a motion to approve the legislative agenda. Mr. Kaupin seconded. DISCUSSION: Ms. Glassman asked if anyone had any other thoughts. As items do or don't get funded, the agenda may need to be updated.

Mr. Smith from Rome Smith & Lutz gave more insight into what is happening at the Capital. Brendan Sharkey and the House Democrats are really committed to the MORE Commission about multi-town operations. Towns can email Jesse Hubbard (jesse.hubbard@cga.ct.gov) with their ideas of what town functions would benefit from shared services. Mr. Smith suggested that CRCOG ask for little pieces of mandates this year instead of asking for lots of funding. CRCOG has always been looking ahead to long term thinking. CCM usually hits the legislators pretty hard. It is imperative that members continue one on one dialogues with their representatives letting them know exactly what your town needs.

Solid Waste Management Update

Some members of CRCOG presented to some of the legislators what CRCOG is trying to do with solid waste. A 50th town has just joined. Mr. Nonnenmacher, CRRA, said that a draft contract went out to the towns for their input on the document which is due to CRRA in the spring. The link to watch the presentation was in your handout packet.

Update on the Goal Setting Session for February 24, 2010

The goal setting session will be held at the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, 222 Pitkin Street, East Hartford in the early morning. Policy Board will follow at the same place. Directions to this facility were in your handout packets.

Adjournment

Ms. Stille made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:35 p.m. Mr. Colman seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.