CapCOG Board of Delegates

Monday, July 19, 2021 - 7:00 PM

M I N U T E S

**DELEGATES IN ATTENDANCE:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Camp Hill Borough, Bonnie Bentz  Conewago Township, Mimi Legro  East Pennsboro Township, Terry  Watts  Hampden Township, Al Bienstock  Harrisburg City, Hillary Greene  Highspire Borough, Mark Stonbraker  Lemoyne Borough, Sue Yenchko | Lower Allen Township, Rick Schin  Lower Paxton Township, Norm  Zoumas, Robin Lindsey  Middle Paxton Township, Jim Fisher  Monroe Township, Carl Kuhl  Royalton Borough, Terry Watts  Silver Spring Township, Harry Kotzmoyer | South Hanover Township, Nora Blair  South Middleton Township, Cory  Adams  Susquehanna Township, Tom Pyne  Upper Allen Township, Ken Martin  Wormleysburg Borough, Margie Stuski, Sue Stuart |

**MUNICIPALITIES NOT IN ATTENDANCE:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Annville Township  Carlisle Borough  Carroll Township  Dauphin Borough  Derry Township  Dillsburg Borough  East Hanover Township  Fairview Township | Goldsboro Borough Hummelstown Borough  Londonderry Township  Lower Swatara Township  Marysville Borough  Mechanicsburg Borough  Middletown Borough  Monaghan Township | New Cumberland Borough  North Middleton Township  Paxtang Borough  Penbrook Borough Shiremanstown Borough  Steelton Borough  Swatara Township  West Hanover Township |

**NON-VOTING IN ATTENDANCE:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Doug Brown, Dauphin County  Vince DiFilippo, Cumberland County  Ted Shumaker, Community Bridges Program  Bill Kelly, Community Bridges Program | CapCOG STAFF  Gary Myers, Executive Director  Rhonda Campbell, Administrative Assistant |

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Cory Adams, President.

Adams led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roundtable introductions were made.

**Presenter**

Ted Shumaker and Bill Kelly, Community Bridges Initiative.

* The goal of the Community Bridges is to intervene in crime before it became a crime.
* Shumaker introduced Bill Kelly, Chief of Police for 31 years in Abington Township. Shumaker shared they heard of this idea generated out of Canada and went up and learned about it there.
* It was a win-win-win in Abington and the community loved it. The officers, social service agencies and public positively responded.
* International Association of Chiefs of Police - won International Policing Award in 2017 (they award four each year).
* In most communities, police are doing a great job making arrests. From 1994 to 2014 major crime, violent crime, and murder reduced by 50% in our country. 2010-2020 had the lowest rate of murder, violent crime since 1960's.
* The problem in the communities are the problems you can't resolve with arrests.
* Mental illness, drugs, abandoned/abused children, domestic violence, etc. Collateral damage in the communities; adverse community impact; repeat calls for service; etc.
* Solution: Community Bridges Program. "HUB"
  + Meet periodically to discuss cases and issues within community before it becomes a crime/tragedy.
  + How can we best help? Before they leave the meeting, there is a plan in place as to what will be done; sometimes that same day.
  + Sometimes it takes more than one agency to help.
  + Some agencies are worried about going out (e.g., social services). Officer will accompany them.
* We think this program is very timely and beneficial.
* We provide a one-day training program to talk about aspects of program. We bring people who are involved in doing it to answer questions that may come up. Managers, chiefs, decision make in the potential organizations.
* Two-day training session for individuals who actually wish to implement the program.
  + Implementers (asst. managers; mid-level police, youth officers, social service agencies, youth programs, family counselors, school counselors, truancy officers, etc.)
* Two-day Police Executive Symposium is another opportunity they offer. Sharing best practices and discussion among attendees to learn what is being done in communities.
* The only way to be successful is to adapt.

**Questions**

Gary Myers - You've been a chief forever, and I've been a Municipal Manager forever. So first question I'm going to ask is what is the cost? What if we would sponsor a 2-day symposium?

Kelly - It would depend on number of attendees.

Myers - We'd offer it and divide the cost based on number of participants. If you could email us an estimate so we can consider offering through COG. Follow up with me via telephone.

Sue Stuart - A network like a HUB exists in this area - owned by the Hospitals. They already know the service providers. We never thought about including the police. Schools have been unwilling to participate. We'd have a long way to go, but the connection to the non-profits is already there if Geisinger hasn't dismantled it. Community Health Needs Assessment group.

Bill Kelly - for areas where there is no cooperation, it gives a great opportunity for these agencies to work together unlike they had previously. Someone just needs to take the first step.

Shumaker - I've been doing this for a long time (criminology student in 1968); I got so tired of being reactive to bad things happening. This is the first time I've seen a program that is proactive. You have to get all the groups to interact (people who see people in crisis). You can make it as big or small as you want; some groups won't cooperate.

Kelly - The first pushback you'll get is "confidentiality" we can't do that. But it can be done. Usually, once that issue is resolved, people are willing to work together.

Ken Martin - I'm intrigued; I like proactive piece and cooperation among agencies. Is this a proprietary venture?

Shumaker - No, not proprietary. We don't own it. We just charge a reasonable fee to do the training and education. We do it to help communities, individuals, and police.

Martin - For a municipality and agencies involved, their motivation is to help community issues. Is there any other perks for them - other incentives?

Kelly - The biggest incentive is the reduction in repeat calls in service. Reduces complaints from neighbors and communities for the repeat calls. It lightens the workload; majority of cases come into the HUB from police and are handled by social service agencies.

Doug Brown, Dauphin County - Co-responder program; started year ago. Some municipalities will partner with social service providers who will come out with officers.

Ted - This is more comprehensive. ER doctors, schools, etc. Not just responders. It covers and involves more people.

Ted - Saskatchewan Hub - great videos showing discussion in a HUB. It shows how to connect the dots and ensure the right people are involved.

**Consent Agenda**

* The June 2021 Minutes and Treasurer's Report were reviewed. Harry Kotzmoyer motioned to approve. Jim Fisher seconded. Unanimously approved.

**Executive Director’s Report – Gary Myer**

* Auction is Wednesday. Items delivered Tuesday. WE are working with a new auctioneer this year - Better Auction House of Zions View. Todd Fish worked closely with Ike Eichelberger on CapCOG's auction. We put the auctioneer services out to bid this year to ensure we are getting the best return on our members' investment. We are looking forward to a good auction.
* Stormwater Fees Meeting - July 15. Today we got legal status of ongoing suits filed against government entities. Lee Stinent provided to us pro bono.
  + Going in circles with the definition of tax vs. fee.
  + If we go the legal route, must be a cooperative effort; last solution.
  + Some municipalities are carrying $1-2 million in stormwater fees; auditors are saying they have to carry as an account to be paid.
  + More to come.
* Friday, Myers received two emails from managers regarding Act 50 - 2021 Wireless Ordinance passed by Legislature. It will require municipalities to update wireless ordinances. Dan Cohen sent information to managers today; in eight hours eight municipalities requested proposals. We need about 15 to get a proposal from Dan with discounts.

August meeting

The August meeting is normally cancelled. Does anyone have any major objections. Terry Watts made a motion. Margie Stuski seconded. Unanimously approved.

**County and Planning Commission Reports**

**Cumberland County** - Vince DiFilippo

* Report was emailed to all Cumberland County Members.
* Statistics released today on Covid vaccinations - state of PA 49.6% of state vaccinated (all ages). Cumberland county has 51.2% (10th in state).

**Dauphin County** - Doug Brown

* Commissioners send regards.
* Cultural festival is August 21 2-10 PM. Free event rain or shine.
* Chad Staylor is settling in a new Commissioner.
* Recovery Plan funding - ECD.
* Broke ground on industrial project -about 700 jobs - in Londonderry Twp.
* Broad band issue - developing mapping and plans and working with ISP and intermediate units for educational side. Particularly in northern end of county.
* Gaming grant open until September.
  + Stuski - Are fire companies eligible for gaming money?
  + Brown - Yes. Personal protective equipment. apparatus, debt reduction, fire station needs, etc.

**York County** - No Report.

**Legislative Update** - Gary Myers

* Nate Silcox left a report for members.
* Sunshine Act changes in regard to posting of agendas and taking action on non agenda items. It is now an ACT. Make sure you are aware of the changes.

**PACOG** - Gary Myers

No updates

**UCC** – Terry Watts

July 27 - Mechanicsburg School District review from October 2020. Upper Allen Elementary School. Short volume and pressure. They've been working on remedy. Requesting an extension.

**Public Safety Committee** - Gary

* Public Safety Meeting held prior to the July Board of Delegates meeting.
  + Last week, FEMA asked for information about MOU (3 page document signed by each department). Jerry Ozog has heard from others that's a good sign.
  + FEMA reached out and asked for clarification of FF stipend program. Each Fire Dept. FF1 or FF2 and run 12% of fire calls in a year, the grant could provide up to $500 per member of fire department.
  + Money has to be allocated by September 30.
  + Ozog is feeling very positive. He has sample policies and procedures; we have the smaller ad hoc group for hiring. We are in good shape should we be awarded the grant to move forward.
  + Once notified, we have an implementation period to get up and running.

**Good of the Order**

Nothing.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 Jim Fisher motioned; Rick Schin seconded. Unanimously approved.