

Adams County Council of Governments

Meeting Notes: 22 October 2020 Meeting

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome, meeting opened at 0830 hours by David Laughman, President
2. Pledge to Flag led by David Laughman, President
3. Roll Call by David Laughman, President. Quorum not present
4. Approval of Minutes, June 2020: Tabled for lack of quorum
5. Approval of Minutes, September 2020: Tabled for lack of quorum
6. Treasurer's Report: Formal report not prepared as there has been no activity. Current balance: \$7,846.18
7. Presentation by Adams Economic Alliance (Robin Fitzpatrick) and @Home Adams County (Caroline Johnson). Presentation charts provided.
 - a. AEA changes focus from many smaller donations to funding focused on fewer activities with larger community impact. This is year two of a three year initiative.
 - b. Three areas of concentration: Affordable (Work Force) Housing, Economic development to keep more residents living and working locally, Transportation.
 - c. 65% of Adams County residents leave the county for work, 35% of resident live and work in the county. 25% of residents are not economically self-sufficient.
 - d. Seek to identify housing options that require municipal considerations and involve municipal leadership in housing.
 - e. Presentation outlines current projects addressing Housing Solutions, Financial Solutions and Transportation Solutions.
 - f. The Transportation Solutions effort is working to develop a bus route connecting Gettysburg, New Oxford, Cross Keys and Hanover to bring workers without transportation to employers having difficulty finding workers.
 - g. An issue highlighted by County Planning Representative is the lack of local acceptance of town home developments that are "affordable."
8. New Business: None reported
9. Regular Business:
 - a. Adams County Commissioners (R. Phiel, J. Martin)
 - i. This is budget season, while revenue is down due to Covid it is not clear what will happen to expenses. Working hard to not have a tax increase.
 - ii. FARES (sp?) Program: Twelve municipalities applied and applications are under review by the Community Evaluation Team. The second round closes 23 October. There will likely not be a third round. All funds will be expended.

"Providing a forum by which governmental entities of Adams County may meet to discuss issues of mutual interest, and to coordinate joint activities between members"

- iii. Elections: The county has plans for escalating levels of response to address election security issues
- iv. Estimate is that 40-50% of votes will be cast by mail.
- v. 20-30,000 mail-in votes expected.
- vi. County ballot drop-box located in the court house public entrance
- vii. Adams County Conservation District: Volunteer sought to replace Barb Underwood to complete the last year of her term. Seeking a township supervisor.
- b. Legislative Representatives:
 - i. Rep. Ecker (C. Waller):
 - 1. House Bill 2513 Covid restriction relief veto override failed.
 - 2. Food service/restaurant industry remains the most impacted.
 - 3. Unemployment compensation remains a major constituency issue.
 - ii. Sen. Mastriano (B. Frey):
 - 1. Unemployment compensation issues continue. PA response unacceptable.
 - 2. "Steer Clear" law passed.
 - 3. Grant funding for Fire/EMS Covid relief still available.
- c. County Planning:
 - i. County Planning Commission: Seeking volunteers for two vacancies, one due to death and one due to resignation. One term ending in 2023, one term ending in 2022.
 - ii. Electronic plan submission seems to be working well, requests municipal feedback regarding any issues and requests for assistance.
 - iii. Mylar/polyester film survey overlay requirement: The materials to produce these are expensive and becoming obsolete/unavailable. Municipal ordinances that require submission of such material will have to be changed to accept other media for permanent copies (paper, electronic).
- d. Township Officials Association: No report.
- e. Boroughs Association: Three meeting are pending that it is critical to have forum to resolve issues and take actions (approve audits, set collection fees, change by-laws to accommodate Zoom meetings, 2021 budget). Meeting details have been sent to municipalities.
 - i. York Adams Tax Bureau 26 Oct. (Zoom Mtg.)
 - ii. Adams County Tax Collection 4 Nov. (Zoom Mtg.)
 - iii. Adams County Boroughs Assoc. 16 Nov. (Zoom Mtg.)
- f. Placeholder (*Missing on agenda*)
- g. PSP: There will be increased presence during elections.
- h. Destination Gettysburg:
 - i. Occupancy for the year is down 30%
 - ii. Occupancy last weekend was down only 5%
 - iii. Issue: A Covid rebound will be more devastating than effects to date.
 - iv. Issue: Funding over the mid-term as organization was not eligible for PPP relief.

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v. Issue: Failure of House

Bill 2513 to override veto to relax restaurant restrictions. More businesses expected to close permanently as early as 1 November.

- i. ACTCC: No report.
- j. School Districts: No report.
- k. AEA: No report beyond agenda item 7 above.

10. Committee Reports: No reports.

11. Announcements: None.

12. Adjournment: 1030 Hours

Next Meeting: 19 November 2020

Prepared by George E. Mauser, Vice President