

AUGUST 24, 2017 Minutes

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President Coleen called the August 24, 2017 Adams County COG meeting to order at 8:30 am.

The following members were present: **Boroughs:** Abbottstown, Arendtsville, Biglerville, Carroll Valley, Fairfield, Gettysburg. **Townships:** Berwick, Butler, Cumberland, Franklin, Germany, Hamilton, Hamiltonban, Highland, Huntington, Straban. **School Districts:** Gettysburg.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY STREETER (GETTYSBURG) AND SECONDED BY SMITH (FAIRFIELD) TO APPROVE THE JULY 27, 2017 MINUTES. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Pat Smith reported no activity and a balance of \$7,520.91.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY PREHN (ARENDSVILLE) AND SECONDED BY PLANK (FRANKLIN) TO APPROVE THE TREASURER'S REPORT TO AUDIT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLEY.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

NEW BUSINESS: President Reamer recognized the various associations that the COG members belong and singled out Mayor Ron Harris of Carroll Valley Borough who was recognized by the Pennsylvania Mayors Association as Mayor of the Year. President Reamer also called attention to the article in the Gettysburg Times on the Blue Ribbon that was received by James Gettys School, it is quite an honor. And Kudos to the Gettysburg Times and their Reporters for their excellent writing in the series on our local Fire Service. Also, the COG Fire Study Committee, DES Director Warren Bladen, the Fire Chiefs Association and Chief Dave Martin. The Smoke Building is up, training is scheduled and they had a Junior Fire Academy.

She called attention to the flier on the Opioid meeting, even if you didn't attend the information is available.

And the E-cycling event is scheduled for Saturday Sept. 9, here at the DES Center. You do have to call in to make a reservation and let us know what you are bringing.

President Reamer then introduced our program, The Adams County Planning Office presenting a program on Economic Development in the County. Andrew Merkel, who is the Comprehensive Planning Manager and Harlen Lawson, a Comprehensive Planner will present an update on the program because they are at the point where they need public input. Municipalities control the land use in the County through their various ordinances and it is important to know what sites are available and for what kind of uses.

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A broader list of available sites is needed and that can only come from the municipalities. Needing local input we are coming to you for information-we are setting up meetings with all 34 municipalities to gather information.

We are gathering demographic information like where people live, where they work, how they commute. Developing a model of a community, infrastructure and look for good locations. We need to know what types of development you want and what infrastructure do you have to support it. Does your zoning allow for that type of development? Do you have blighted areas that should be targeted for development? There are tools for development that like tax incentives that can help. We are starting at the top of the County with the Bermudian Springs School District and the Upper Adams School District. And Scheduling meetings with the municipalities in those Districts. So far, most municipalities are happy with their land use ordinances, some want to make some small changes. Over all they would like development that would fit into what they already have. This is a joint effort between the Planning Office and ACEDC. This way people learn who they can go to for information. We also want to meet with the School Districts because they have an interest in economic development for tax reasons, but they don't control land use but their input is important. The County is now broken down for the various planning staff. Having staff familiar with specific areas is helpful. The Question was asked, what if a municipality wanted to meet sooner than their scheduled date, Andy replied that might be possible.

OLD BUSINESS:

ADAMS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Commissioner Phiel reported that he has missed a lot of meeting because of his involvement with the Human Services Building. But now he can report that the building is occupied with the exception of two District Magistrates who will soon be moving there. The building has been well received, the COG saw it when we met there and a ribbon cutting will be held sometime in the future. If you drive around this building you will see that the berms are up for the Law Enforcement Firing Range, storm-water controls are next and then the final fundraising for the structures can begin. Commissioner Phiel also reported that the meeting of the Opioid Taskforce was well attended by the community.

Commissioner Martin reported that there is a phone scam where people get phone calls soliciting information and the Caller ID indicates "Emergency Services". Emergency Services will not come up on caller id, it is a scam. Also, the Kiwanis Club is building a playground for children that will be accessible

to children of all abilities and disabilities. Funds are needed to complete this very worthwhile project. Applications are being accepted for the position of Prison Warden with interviews to be starting soon.

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President Reamer called attention to several Townships, Germany and Hamiltonban that are building parks with playgrounds, all of which can use some help with funding.

Commissioner Qually reported that the County is hiring an architect to look at the counties long term facilities plan. It is going to be a tough year for funding. The County has an excellent credit rating and in a week we should know if it goes up another notch. Economic development in the County helps that rating. Gettysburg Borough is doing a “Lerta Project” now. The Gettysburg Hotel was a Lerta Project and a success. This is a tool that could be used elsewhere. Commissioner Qually is soliciting ideas for topics for 2018 County Forums, maybe MS4s??

Mr. Phiel pointed out that if the County credit rating improves, it will help every municipality in the County that needs to borrow money.

ADAMS COUNTY PLANNING: That’s it!

PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE: Lt. Nickey reported he is happy to be back. A new barracks is in the works for next year, it will be in Straban Township. The State Police are here to serve us.

ADAMS COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS: Bob Gordon reported that the Fall Convention will be November 8 at the SAVES Fire Hall. We will be celebrating 100 years, sometime after Labor Day, letters requesting information for the booklet will be going out, please respond.

BOROUGH ASSOCIATION: Mayor Harris reported that the next meeting will be Sept. 12 at the Pike Restaurant. Speaker will be Deputy Secretary from the Department of Health, Bio includes a background in “Emergency services Management”. This would be of interest to Fire and Ambulance Companies. Also, the Boroughs Association does have a newsletter so if you need to provide information, this is another source.

ACTCC: No report.

SCHOOL DISTRICTS: Brad Hunt reported that schools in session and expressed his thanks to all the police and road crews that help the traffic move. Mentioned a joint recreation program with Franklin

Elementary School and Franklin Township. Brad also introduced the new Superintendent of the Gettysburg Area School District, Dr. Jason Perrin.

ACEDC: No report.

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PENN STATE EXTENSION: No report.

AC COLLABORATION: The big event is scheduled for September 9. We have one truck full, can we fill another? Discussion followed and the feeling is that we should be positive. An article is going in the paper, the problem might be when to shut off registration. If we fill it up, we can schedule an event in the Spring.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Bob Gordon reported that our November COG meeting on November 16, will be our Legislative Review, we will hear our Legislators and or representatives discuss their progress on our legislative priorities. Senator Alloway has hired a new legislative Representative for the Gettysburg office to replace Scott Pitzer, so chances are that the next leg. Comm. Meeting will be at Sen. Alloway's office.

PUBLIC WORKS: No Report.

EMERGENCY SERVICES: If you have a nursing home or a personal care home in your municipality, please contact Eric Zaney. There is grant funding available for training personal for emergency evacuations in case of fire or other emergencies.

LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVES: Rep. Dan Moul reported on his work to help solve the funding problem in Harrisburg. Rep. Moul explained how he and his group of representatives have been working to identify unused funds that are sitting in accounts that could be used to fund the deficit and not hurt the account from which it was withdrawn. This is a one time fix and not really a long term funding solution. But it would get us out of it once, and it would involve no taxes or borrowing.

President Reamer called attention to the fact that all of us represent governments that have power, the Cog has no power to legislate but provides a forum to exchange ideas and facilitate cooperation.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Bob Gordon addressed the COG that he had attended an excellent program at HACC called "Advantage Adams." There was a nationally recognized speaker who spoke on tourism as a part of economic development. Where does Adams County want to be in the future? To be a part of the future of Adams County, we all have to participate.

President Reamer reported that in the future we would be looking at the BLS and ALS Service in the County, how that has changed since Wellspan withdrew. As municipalities, we need to know and understand the needs of our providers and how we can support them.

At 9:53 am, President Reamer asked for a motion to adjourn.

A MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MOSER (LITTLESTOWN) AND SECONDED BY GORDON (HAMILTONBAN). THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLEY.

Gus Fridenvalds

ACCOG Secretary