



GBRC

Greater Bridgeport Regional Council

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Approved Minutes
Greater Bridgeport Regional Council
Thursday, June 25th, 2015 at 10:00am
Greater Bridgeport Regional Council Conference Room
Bridgeport, Connecticut

Name	Representing
Adam Dunsby, First Selectman	Easton
Mike Tetreau, First Selectman	Fairfield
Steve Vavrek, First Selectman	Monroe
John Harkins, Mayor	Stratford
Timothy Herbst, First Selectman	Trumbull
Brian Bidolli, Executive Director	GBRC
Colleen Kelleher, Administrative Assistant	GBRC
Joe Delong, Executive Director	CCM
Kevin Maloney	CCM

Minutes

I. Call to Order

This was a regular meeting of the GBRC. It was called to order by the Chair, First Selectman Herbst, at 10:15 am. A quorum was declared.

II. Public Participation

There was no public participation

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by First Selectman Vavrek and seconded by First Selectman Dunsby to approve the minutes from April 30, 2015.

The motion carried 4-0-0

IV. Action Items

1. Bylaws

Mr. Bidolli explained that as discussed at the meeting on April 30th, the bylaws were amended to reflect the name change.

A motion to approve the amendments to the bylaws was made by Mayor Harkins and seconded by First Selectman Varkek. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0-0.

2. EPA Brownfield Assessment

Mr. Bidolli announced that an EPA grant was awarded last month, for environmental document research, this resolution will authorize Mr. Bidolli to execute EPA Assessment related agreements.

A motion to approve the EPA resolution was made by Mayor Harkins and seconded by First Selectman Dunsby. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0-0.

3. Route 25 and 111 Corridor Planning Study

Mr. Bidolli explained that a LOTCIP study was approved for Trumbull and Monroe, money was awarded, there was no match requirement and that the contract would be available soon.

A motion to approve the Route 25 and 111 Corridor resolution was made by Mayor Harkins and seconded by First Selectman Vavrek. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0-0

V. Presentation: Joe Delong, Executive Director, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities.

Mr. Delong apologized to the council for missing the previous council meeting, and explained that the purpose of his visit was to introduce himself and to let the CEOs know that he would be reaching out to each town to schedule a separate meeting to share his vision for CCM.

Mr. Delong explained that he was not at CCM to fight with the legislature. Rather, he wanted to focus on member services, make sure that dues were put to good use and that members were earning a return on their investment.

Mr. Bidolli asked what CCM's goals in the region were.

Mr. Delong responded that the organization needs to look for partnership opportunities with the COGs. Mr. Delong explained that he was left with a good organization but that there is a feeling of competition with the COGs. Mr. Delong would like to get COGs on the same page and find out where CCM should focus their resources and collectively go in the same direction.

Mr. Delong gave a brief background of his history and how he ended up at CCM.

First Selectman Dunsby inquired about Mr. Delong's top priorities at CCM. Mr. Delong responded that he would like to restructure the organization so that there is more cohesion between the separate departments, become more respected in the legislature and have more internal strategic planning sessions.

Mayor Harkins commented that he recently joined CCM and believes that CCM has no legitimacy at the legislative level. CCM offers research but is just another voice among a crowd of voices.

There was a brief discussion about budgets and mandates.

Mr. Delong stated that CCM is not a standalone association; they are guided by members and want the members to be engaged. Members do not need to go to every meeting but should communicate and be engaged.

Mr. Maloney commented that if COGs have suggestions to save money, CCM would like to hear.

Mr. Bidolli commented that GBRC has provided GIS to cut costs for the towns but received a letter from CCM that stated if GBRC needs money they should cut the RPIP program.

Mr. Delong concluded with announcing that his office will reach out to the towns to set up separate meetings.

The council went into executive session from 10:46-11:15

VI. Communications & Announcements

1. Administrative Policy Update

a. Accounting

Mr. Bidolli provided everyone with the draft accounting manual.

First Selectman Tetreau made a recommendation to add a reference to the Deputy Director.

First Selectman Dunsby inquired if this was an outside report.

Mr. Bidolli responded that he drafted the report with a CPA.

b. Regional GIS

Mr. Bidolli explained that there has been generally positive feedback regarding the Regional GIS Program, but that there were some concerns over the funding splits. Mr. Bidolli proceeded to go over the funding numbers.

Mr. Bidolli explained that there were some delays getting the funding request through OPM. He managed to get a six month extension pending a long term fund mechanism.

Mr. Bidolli discussed the budget handout provided to the CEOs and explained that the numbers were not pertinent to the current budget cycle.

First Selectman Tetreau made suggestions to the budget worksheet formatting.

Mr. Bidolli explained that he was looking into a public/private partnership to cover the data costs.

Mayor Harkins noted that the GIS viewer was working great for Stratford. First Selectman Vavrek stated that since Monroe has never had a GIS viewer it was also working well.

First Selectman Tetreau requested more factual support to explain the costs for the town, and would like to know what cost sharing formula other COGs use. First Selectman Tetreau explained that he is not opposed to paying the costs but would like the objectives and rationale of how to costs are split to bring back to his board.

There was a brief discussion about dues and cost values.

2. Plan of Conservation and Development

Mr. Bidolli announced that the POCD open house scheduled for June 29th would start the review period and comments could be made until the end of August.

3. Technical Advisory Committee Reports

Mr. Carleton provided an update for the Emergency Management Technical Advisory Committee, and explained the purpose and benefits of the group. If the committee was not supported by all six municipalities there would be no reason to move forward with the group.

First Selectman Tetreau noted that he needed to hear from the Fairfield representatives to make a decision on his support of the group.

First Selectman Dunsby requested more information.

Mr. Carleton explained that it was an advisory group to go over what the towns are doing in response to emergency management and how it can be done collectively.

Mr. Bidolli noted that the Emergency Management Directors of some member municipalities approached GBRC to set up the group so there would be better communication as a region. He invited anyone to join him at an REPT meeting.

VII. Other Business

There was no other business.

V. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Harkins and seconded by First Selectman Dunsby. The meeting adjourned at 11:45am.

Respectively submitted,

Michael Tetreau, First Selectman
GBRC Secretary