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**Approved by a vote of the Committee – May 8, 2013**

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**CMRPC Legislative Affairs Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
April 10, 2013**

**Present:** Tom Gregory, Kristen Garza, Kristin Wood, Adam Gaudette (acting chair), Sherry Patch, (Quorum - yes)  
**Staff:** Trish Settles  
**Absent:** Leon Gaumont, Shaun Suhoski

**1. Call to order – 1:17pm**

**2. Review of the Minutes:**

***A motion was made, seconded and five voted to approve (with one abstention) the minutes of January 16, 2013.***

**3. 2013 Work Plan**

The committee affirmed its plan to hold two events in the calendar year 2013. The events will include a breakfast type meeting “Mass Legislation 101” in the spring and a topical discussion in the fall.

**4. Spring Event**

The intended audience for the “Mass Legislation 101” is municipal leaders. Since the focus of this event is to educate would be bill drafters and not to directly influence legislators, timing is less important and a mid June date is anticipated. Senator Brewer was contacted but has declined the invitation to present. Kristin Wood suggested that Senator Flanagan (D) be asked to present on the topic (Kristin will reach out to her.) In addition Tom Gregory will request Rep Matt Beaton’s ( R) participation. As backup participants/presenters we discussed asking Senator Chandler and Rep Gobi. We will ask Leon to contact Senator Chandler and Adam will contact Representative Gobi.

The date will be set to accommodate their schedules as best possible.

Once a date is determined Trish will send out a save the date email blast/newsletter to our various constituencies.

There was some discussion about moving the event. Kristen Garza is going to check with the Worcester Library as a possible alternative to CMRPC’s Union Hall.

Transportation Reform was discussed as a possible topic for the fall event.

5. Next meeting date: May 8<sup>th</sup> 1pm at CMRPC.

6. New businesses.

There was a discussion regarding the ability/powers of the committee to contact legislators regarding their support or sponsorship of particular legislation.

Trish consulted with Larry briefly and it was determined that the committee should submit requests to the Executive Committee for their consideration.

In response to a letter sent by the Town of Dudley to the region's town leaders, ***a motion was made by Sherry and seconded by Tom to request that the CMRPC Executive Committee send a letter to legislators of the region asking them to support legislation entitled the "Sustainable Education Funding Act" that would cap annual increases to public school funding at 2.5%.*** (see attached).

Four voted in favor of the motion with one abstention. The motion passed. Trish will forward this to Larry Adams and the Executive Committee for action at its next meeting.

7. Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.

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