
Approved by a vote of the Committee – **August 20, 2014**

**CMRPC Legislative Affairs Committee
Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2014**

Present: Sherry Patch, Jim Bates, Adam Gaudette, Shaun Suhoski
(Quorum - yes)
Staff: Trish Settles
Absent: Leon Gaumond, Tom Gregory
Guest: Robin Craver

1. Call to order – 1:25pm

2. Review of the April 9, 2014 Minutes – Sherry made a motion to accept the minutes of May 21st. Motion was seconded by Jim Bates, and motion passed with Adam abstaining.

3. Robin Craver, having attended the managers meeting immediately before the Legislative Affairs Committee meeting, was asked to stay and consider taking Shaun Suhoski's seat on the committee. Robin is the Town Administrator for Charlton.

4. Spring event

- It would have been great to have more attendance, and more legislators in particular.
- The format is tricky, in that Senator Michael Moore was somewhat put on the spot on a topic tangential to the primary event topic – Economic Development.
- Ideas for the next event included Public Health, Agricultural Economic Development, Environmental Bond Bill subjects, and Regionalization.
- Would it better to hold the next breakfast in early December, to attract people after the elections and before January when they can be more proactive in filing actual legislation or affecting new legislation?

5. Process – Trish drafted a questionnaire for the committee's consideration for usage when considering whether and how to take action on legislation brought before them. Also a rough outline of a process was discussed. Trish will refine based on feedback at the meeting and will share with the Executive Committee. The Committee discussed that once we feel comfortable with the process and its description that we should send it out to Town Managers/Administrators/Community leaders and others to make them aware of our new role in reviewing legislation. They also indicated that we should reach out to

our legislators and letting them know that when asked by community leaders, we are reviewing legislation and may take action to comment and or support.

6. **New committee members** – We still need a replacement for Kristen Wood and now that Shaun is leaving Sturbridge, we will need a replacement for him as well. Robin has indicated that she would accept an appointment to the committee. Also at a past meeting, Denny Drewry of Westborough had indicated that he would be interested in serving. Trish will contact Denny about his willingness to serve on the committee and then will send a memo to the executive committee.
7. **Next meeting date:** Wednesday August 20th at 2:00pm at CMRPC.
8. Meeting adjourned at 2:10pm.

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