

Approved by a vote of the Committee – November 5, 2014

**CMRPC Legislative Affairs Committee
 Meeting Minutes
 October 1, 2014**

Present: Adam Gaudette, Leon Gaumond, Tom Gregory, and Tim McInerney (Quorum - yes)
Staff: Trish Settles
Absent: Jim Bates, Sherry Patch, Robin Craver
Guest: None

- 1. Call to order – 2:20pm**
- 2. Review of the August 20, 2014 Minutes – Tom made a motion, seconded by Leon, to accept the minutes of August 20, 2014. All voted in favor.**
- 3. Legislative Updates.** Since the legislature is not in formal session, there was not much in the way of updates. There was general discussion about possible bills related to education finance.
- 4. Review process.** Trish shared the Survey monkey tool. There were a few suggested edits that we will be incorporated before releasing. Trish will draft a cover letter for the form for review at our next meeting.
- 5. Fall Event**
 In response to Adam’s request for information, Trish shared the attendance from the previous events

Event	Date	Topic	Total Attendees	Total Legislators
Spring 2012	May 18	Transportation Funding	over 60	?
Fall 2012	Nov 16	Unfunded Mandates	63	3
Spring 2013	Jun 14	How a Bill becomes a law	31	4
Fall 2013	Oct 25	Zoning Reform	45	6
Spring 2014	Jun 6	Econ Dev Resources	48	4
Fall 2014	Dec 5	Public Health	?	?

Trish shared a proposal for a Public Health focused agenda at the next Legislative Affairs Breakfast. The December 5th date will get us past the elections and before the holidays in time for possible attention to crafting bills due in January. Trish spoke with Derek Brindisi of Worcester. He has agreed to assist with participating and helping set the agenda.

Topic: Public Health
 Date: Friday, December 5th
 Time: 8:00am to 10:00am, program starts at 8:30am

- 8:00 Registration, Networking, Light Healthy Breakfast
- 8:30 Welcome, Meeting Overview, Legislative Affairs Cmte Progress Report – Adam Gaudette, Spencer, Town Admin.
- 8:40 Review of Public Health Data/Concerns/Progress and Challenges in Central Massachusetts
- 8:50 Topics
 - Substance Abuse/Heroin Addiction – Quaboag Valley Substance Abuse Task Force
 - Food and Active Living – Liz Sheehan or similar
 - Tobacco use
 - Regionalizing Public Health – Derek Brindisi
- 9:35 Legislator Response, Questions, and Comment
- 9:45 Audience Response, Questions, and Comment
- 9:55 Closing remarks

6. New Business – Trish shared that as part of work CMRPC has been doing related to rural housing that they are considering hosting a forum with rural Worcester County legislators after the elections. A similar forum was held with Rep. Kulik and Sen. Downing in the Hilltown area of western Mass.

7. Next meeting date: Wednesday November 5th at 2:00pm at CMRPC.

8. Meeting adjourned at 3:20pm.

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