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CMRPC Legislative Affairs Committee Agenda

March 18, 2025 – 9:00 am
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Attendees: Andrew Golas (Chair) – Charlton, William Trifone – Dudley, David Quiroa – Worcester, Jared Grigg – Spencer (9:20)

Absent: Mary Bulso – Blackstone, Jennifer Warren-Dyment – West Boylston, Jen Callahan – Oxford

CMRPC Staff: Ethan Melad, Connor Robichaud, Anthony Senesi, Sherrie Haber

Discussion regarding the March Quarterly Meeting topic began at 9:07am.

The discussion began with considering the quarterly meeting topic (Municipal and Public Safety Buildings) be used as the topic for the next Legislative forum. Mr. Golas suggested bringing someone in to talk about MSBA and compare the program to the proposed bills. Mr. Trifone was unsure if the bills are trying to mirror that authority and gave some information on how MSBA works. Mr. Robichaud suggested that there be a speaker on Public Safety as well, possibly Mary Bulso. Mr. Golas suggested that the forum focus specifically on the needs of the communities such as health concerns, financial impacts and logistics.

The meeting was called to order with a quorum at 9:20am.

Next Forum:

- Specifics of the next forum were discussed. Mr. Senesi suggested that early Friday morning worked well for legislators at the last forum. Dates of May 9th or 16th were proposed.
- Mr. Trifone suggested that it does not leave much time for funding to be active in FY26. Mr. Robichaud suggested that the topic could be brought to Executive Committee for approval on advocacy and then use the forum as an event to educate and demonstrate need.
- Mr. Grigg asked if we were only considering the bills brought forth at the quarterly meeting. Mr. Golas would like to consider the whole topic and Mr. Melad agreed saying that we could bring the topic to the executive committee without endorsing one bill over another.



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Priority Bills:

- Mr. Golas suggested that PFAS is a regional priority and that rather than advocating for testing, the committee might consider advocating for funding.
- Mr. Grigg asked if the committee could postpone considering the other items until the committee had more time to research possible bills. **The next meeting was scheduled for April 8, 2025.** Mr. Trifone and Mr. Golas agreed but suggested that the topics of Municipal Buildings and Remote Meetings be brought forth to Executive Committee this month.
- **Motion:** to endorse for recommendation to the Executive Committee, advocacy on the topics of funding for Municipal and Public Safety Buildings and the continuation of Remote Meetings. Motion made by Mr. Grigg and Seconded by Mr. Trifone. **The motion passed** unanimously.
- For the next meeting, Mr. Grigg asked that Mr. Melad provide bill numbers for the topics to be discussed. Mr. Golas asked that there be a focus on topics and that the committee be prepared to rank by priority.

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Grigg and Seconded by Mr. Trifone. The motion passed unanimously.
- The meeting adjourned at 9:35am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Sherrie Haber, CMRPC