

MINUTES UPPER DAUPHIN COG

Thursday, February 15, 2018
Hosted by Washington Township

The regular monthly meeting of the Upper Dauphin Council of Governments was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Vice-President Chris Dietz. The following persons were in attendance:

Chris Blose	Halifax Borough
Jeanette Crabb	Lykens Borough
Trish Barder	Lykens Borough
Albert Morgan	Lykens Township
Alan Loesch	Jefferson Township
Robyn Loesch	Jefferson Township
Keith Crum	Jefferson Township
Deb Everly	Jefferson Township – TCRP representative
Tom Billow	Mifflin Township
Deb Kish	Mifflin Township
Donna Sittlinger	Washington Township
Ron Hepner	Upper Paxton Township
Mile Tobash	State Representative 125 th
Steve Boyer	Medic 6
Barry Albertson	Community Life Team

There were seven municipalities represented, seven are needed for a quorum

MINUTES

Trish Barder made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 18, 2018 meeting and the summary of the November 16, 2017 meeting. Seconded by Janette Crabb. All in favor.

TREASURERS REPORT

Checking Account	Jan. 2018	\$1120.00
Bank Charges		- 24.00
Dues		+1675.44
January Bills		<u>-788.61</u>
Balance February 2018		\$1982.83

Bills to be paid at the February meeting

Robyn Loesch –Feb.	199.99	
Selective Insurance	<u>1332.00</u>	
		1531.00

Ron Hepner made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Donna Sittlinger. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE –

USDA has sent notice that they have grants available.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Chris Blose thanked all of the COG members for re-electing him as President of COG.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Brooke Echevarria, Dauphin County Grants Coordinator, talked about several of the DCED Programs. There is a Community Development Block Grant through HUD. This is for Public services and public infrastructure, There are low and moderate income requirements for this program, and the application will be on the County website starting sometime in late August to early September. Applications are due in early November. There is a Home Rehab program for homeowners to rehab housing to meet code deficiencies. This can be used for such things as roofs and windows, Grants are up to \$26,500. There is already a one and a half to two year waiting list and the program has income limits.

The Tourism Grant Program is available to municipalities and non-profit events that bring tourism into the County. Some examples are 5K runs and the Millersburg Fireworks.

The Gaming Grant program, that is funded by casino money. These grants are given to non-profits and municipalities for projects in public health, safety, and transportation. The application process starts in May and are due the beginning of September. Projects are presented at a public hearing and are awarded in late April of the following year. The County distributes around four million in Gaming Grants each year..

There is a first-time homeowners program that provides up to \$3000 in no interest loans. There are income restrictions and a house cost limit. Also, the homeowners will have to take a class in homeownership.

There is a small business loan program, and a Land Bank program to stem blight.

Representative Mike Tobash, gave an update on some current legislative issues. The legislature recently expanded gaming in PA, which allows up to ten new mini-casinos. The legislature had looked at using some special fund monies to balance the budget, at this time there is nine to ten billion dollars in these special funds. Ron Hepner asked about Right-to-Know legislation reform. Mike Tobash said that his office has worked on this issue and will get back to us with some information. He talked about Act 172, which allows tax rebates to EMS volunteers. This will hopefully increase local volunteerism. He has introduced House Bill 1659, requiring able-bodied adults without dependents to work, perform community service, participate in a work program or be enrolled as a full-time student in order to receive SNAP benefits.

Steve Boyer and Barry Albertson, gave a quick update about Medic 6/ Community Life Team. They cover Advanced and Basic Life Support (ALS, BLS) services in nine Upper Dauphin Area municipalities and provide ALS in all of the others, They are the only EMTs in the area. Trish Barder asked if local people donate to Medic 6, does the donation go to Medic 6 or to Pinnacle. The answer is that the Pinnacle Foundation earmarks the donation for the specific area.

OLD BUSINESS

The COSTARS SALT Contracts are due by March 15th.

PROJECTS –Ron Hepner reported that the recycling events are still collecting a lot of electronic recyclables. However, they still could use some more volunteer help. It was suggested the District Justices be contacted to see if anyone need community service hours.

NEW BUSINESS –

Alan Loesch talked about the recent LTAP class inventorying and documenting local signs. He noted that the municipalities need an ordinance listing their stop signs, for the stop signs to be enforceable. Jefferson Township is looking into getting a ball-bank indicator to determine curve speeds. Also, let him know if anyone needs to train flaggers.

Chris Blose said that Halifax Borough had started a program giving \$275 volunteer appreciation checks to the borough EMS providers. Contact Chris for more details.

PROBLEMS OF MUNICIPALITIES – NONE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting will be on March 15th. Berrysburg Borough will host the meeting. The April meeting will be at Lykens Borough. The May meeting is at Mifflin Township. The June meeting will be at Jefferson Township.

ADJOURNMENT Trish Barder made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Albert Morgan. Meeting adjourned at 8:35.