



Minutes of Meeting
CITIZENS' EFFICIENCY COMMISSION
July 9, 2014

ATTENDANCE

Citizens' Efficiency Commissioners

X	Larry Bomke	X	Robert Plunk
X	Josh Collins	X	J.D. Sudeth
X	James Donelan	X	Joan Walters
X	Karen Hasara	X	Robert Wesley
X	Jackie Newman		

Others

Norm Sims- SSCRPC

Gail Weiskopf - SSCRPC

Amy Uden- SSCRPC

Steven Simpson Black - Citizen

Jeff Fulgenzi - SSCRPC

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Joan Walters called the meeting of the Citizens' Efficiency Commission to order.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Walters asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the June 11, 2014 meeting. Ms. Jackie Newman moved to approve the minutes from the last CEC meeting. Mr. Robert Plunk seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

III. UPDATES ON PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Chair Walters stated the CEC had received a letter from the Fire Chief Associations Subcommittee requesting a meeting with the CEC, as discussed at the last meeting. She noted that the CEC had responded and offered this group the first hour of the current meeting, but that they had requested additional time to prepare. The CEC determined that it would meet with this group during the first hour of the September 10th meeting.

Also, at the April Regional Leadership Council meeting, the members expressed interest in working with the Fire Protection Districts on the CEC's Fire/EMS Recommendation. Vice-Chair Plunk reported that the mayors' group did agree to form a committee to study the issue of the recommendation by the CEC related to FPD. He also said that he had spoke with Mayor Yokley, Chairman of Williamsville, who expressed an interest in having a CEC member, a Fire Chief, a Trustee of the FPD and a member of the RLC either as committee members or to provide support to the Committee.

Mr. Norms Sims said that SSCRPC staff had since met with members of the RLC Executive Committee. The RLC chair had indicated that the new Fire/EMS Subcommittee would be established by the RLC's meeting in July. In addition to the



County of Sangamon and the City of Springfield representatives, they are looking to add Sarah Fricke, an EMS representative from Memorial Medical Center.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Walters and Vice- Chair Plunk reported that they had met with County Board Chair Andy Van Meter and County Administrator Brian McFadden to introduce themselves as the new officers of the Efficiency Commission. They reported that they had discussed board issues and potential partnerships in implementing CEC recommendations, and that overall the meeting was very positive. The County Chairman had pledged the board's support, potentially including assistance with funding for a consultant to further explore CEC issues. The CEC will be officially recognized at either the September or October County Board meeting. She noted that Mr. McFadden had advised the CEC to "think big picture" as it moved forward. Mr. Sims also noted that McFadden had approved financial support for part-time assistance for CEC.

V. DISCUSSION OF WORK PLAN FOR CONTINUED CEC

Chair Walters then opened the discussion regarding the prioritization of recommendations. The Commissioners had been tasked at their last meeting with ranking their current recommendations in terms of their three highest and lowest priorities, and SSCRPC staff had compiled these scores. The CEC found that, when their rankings were compiled, the top three highest ranking priorities were City-SMSD Sewer Cooperation, Fire/EMS Functions, and Leaders' Peer Networks. The bottom three lowest ranking priorities were Electric Aggregation, Infrastructure Equipment Inventory, and Energy Efficiency. The CEC members were asked to share their opinions in support of various recommendations and to explain their proposal for each item. The group was hopeful that the discussion would help to narrow where their efforts should be applied.

The CEC engaged in a very extensive discussion of the status of each of the recommendations that had received votes, with members defending the rationale behind each of their selections. With each recommendation discussed, further clarification was offered related to the CEC's goals and the philosophy behind members' priorities. Values the CEC expressed related to its priorities included maintaining public safety, increasing public engagement and volunteerism, and ensuring long-term performance improvement and evaluation. Various recommendations had been prioritized because they advanced CEC themes or appeared to be attainable. On the other hand, some Commissioners had voted to advance very challenging recommendations because of their importance.

Commissioners noted that they still needed to discuss efforts to generate support for the final report themes, both among local leaders and among members of the public. They noted that this should be pursued at a future meeting. Mr. Sims pointed out that many of the CEC's concerns could be tackled with the help of strategic partners, including the RLC. The CEC noted that the next RLC meeting was July 30th, 2014.



The discussion also brought to light that it will be necessary for the committee to discuss what obstacles they will endure, how to work around them, and to be aware that some items may not be resolved. The Commission recognized that some of the situations related to their more challenging recommendations may be more critical than others, but noted that if they do nothing, the problems will likely become worse. Commissioners also realized that most of their recommendations will present implementation challenges, even those with a limited number of entities of local government involved. Everyone seemed to agree that the progress may be gradual, but that it was the job of the commission to attempt to do what they could to develop partnerships and use existing resources to pursue identified recommendations as far as possible before removing them from the CEC's work plan.

At the close of the discussion, the CEC had worked through an overview of a majority of its recommendations, and had a greater understanding of potential steps forward. Chair Walters determined that she would begin working with SSCRPC staff to develop a preliminary work plan based on this feedback from the Commissioners.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

The next CEC meeting date will be August 13, 2014, at 3:00 pm in Room 212 of the Sangamon County Building.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Walters asked if there were any public comments. Steven Simpson Black, who was in attendance as a citizen observer, stated that he enjoyed the discussion. The CEC thanked him for his interest and attendance.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further comments, Chair Walters called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Josh Collins made the motion with Senator Larry Bomke seconding. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail Weiskopf
Recording Secretary