

AGENDA

SOUTHERN MAINE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

August 22nd, 2007

Anderson Learning Center, 21 Bradeen St.
Springvale, Me.

NOON

1. Introductions

We have a number of new Board members and also a full Board so we should take a few minutes to introduce ourselves. In addition, we have provided binders with some introductory materials regarding the Planning Commission which we can go over.

2. Minutes of^{May 31st} and June 27th Annual Meeting

The minutes for the two meetings are enclosed.

3. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for July is enclosed.

4. Meeting Schedule

For the past few years we have been meeting every month at Wednesday at noon. Last year we had some discussions about possibly not meeting every month, and changing the time to better meet peoples schedules. Hopefully we can work through some different schedules and come up with the outline for a schedule for the year.

5. Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund

As you may know by now we were awarded a one million dollar grant from EPA for a Brownfields revolving Loan Fund and grant program. I have enclosed our draft work plan which outlines how we will manage the fund. Soon, we will need to establish a loan

committee. The executive Committee is proposed to have the final word on loan and grant approvals. If you have time to review the proposed work plan please do and bring questions. We are waiting word from EPA on their approval of the plan.

6. Status of Economic Development District (EDD) Designation

For new Board members this may be a bit confusing and probably easier to summarize at the meeting. Unfortunately our attempt to have SMRPC established as it's own federally designated Economic Development District has hit yet another roadblock. For those who have been monitoring this effort, I have to say that both on both the GPCOG and SMRPC ends we are unsure of our next steps.

I have enclosed some e-mails from the Philadelphia office of EDA. Basically, they are questioning the distress criteria that we have provided as the basis for our designation. I would like to get some feedback from those of you who have been involved. Do we:

- 1) wait (for the next few months)*
- 2) pursue a political strategy (getting the congressional delegation involved)*
- 3) hire someone familiar with EDA to pursue the designation on our behalf*
- 4) give up*

After spending nearly three years on this I would rather not give up. I can further define the options on Wednesday.

7. Dues and Budget info

I have enclosed the status of our budget requests to date by town. I also believe we were included in the county budget at a reduced amount, although we still have not yet received a payment.

8. SMRPC Project List

To give both old and new Board members an idea of what our staff is doing I have included a list of project by department. I can go through these briefly as there have also been some additions.

Other

1. I have been approached about being on the GrowSmart Maine Board of Directors. It would mean a meeting 4 times a year in Augusta. I think it would be helpful to have someone from this region and representing regional planning on the Board. I wanted to check with you all before expressing my interest.

2. I can provide an update on the search for Peg's replacement which is taking some time)

Next meeting: ???