

AGENDA

SOUTHERN MAINE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

November 12th, 2009
Anderson Learning Center
21 Bradeen St.
Springvale, Me.

9:00 AM

1. Minutes of August 27th Meeting

The minutes for the meeting are enclosed.

2. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report for September and October is enclosed.

3. Brownfields Update

Things have slowed down a bit on the Brownfields front. Some projects are on hold, and others have slowed their timetables. We can provide an update on all possible projects. Now that we have about 1.6 million to distribute, and also some time, we will likely do some actual marketing.

I have also enclosed a fact sheet on the North Berwick project, which recently received a great deal of press.

4. County Budget/Local Dues

It's that time of year again. For the current year our County contribution has been \$26,133. In light of the current County budget situation, I believe we will be fortunate to receive that in the coming fiscal year. My understanding is that the current budget put forth by the Commissioners maintains this amount for SMRPC. We are also working on a few county projects, including energy planning and emergency management plans.

In view of the fiscal situation of many towns, I believe our dues requests to towns should once again remain the same. The current dues structure is enclosed.

I can say that we will we need to seriously look at increasing dues in the coming years. We have the following capital items that need to be replaced:

Server – 20-30k

Plotter – 6k

Copy Machine – 6k

Our rent goes up 3-5% a year.

It is hard to maintain these items with stagnant due amounts.

5. York County Advocacy Project

I am enclosing the summary of the last York County Advocacy meeting (10/22). We discussed this at our last meeting and Board members wished to be kept up to date on the progress of the effort.

Essentially, the initial phase has ended and we are beginning to think about working with our legislators for the upcoming session. I am also going to be working on a familiar task with the Saco City Administrator and our Board Chair – trying to kick start our efforts to get our own Economic Development District. This is essentially a task I have been working on for a few years.

I am awaiting some further info on the next phase. There is a question whether the region can enter this effort without actually hiring a lobbyist (which I know is a concern for folks). I would like to get some feedback on what role, if any, SMRPC might play.

6. Energy Projects

As I mentioned in a prior e-mail, we are working on a grant application with six southern York County towns to develop a Revolving Loan Fund for energy projects. SMRPC would help administer the fund (the town of Kittery is the lead applicant). We have talked to our partners BSAEDC about using their underwriting services for the financial end.

We have also been working with York County on their Dept. of Energy application for 640k of energy funds for various projects in the county building and possibly throughout the county. I can fill-in Board members more on this.

Other

Next meetings:

December 10th
January 21st