

## MINUTES OF FIFTEENTH MEETING OF STRATEGIC PLANNING AND READINESS CENTER COMMITTEE

June 9, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m. at the York County Government Building

Present: Commissioner Dutremble, Commissioner Donna Ring, County Manager Greg Zinser, Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont, Goodwin Mills Fire Chief Matt Duross, Assistant Sanford Fire Chief Rick Smith, Chief Fire Administrator Rod Hooper, EMA Director Art Cleaves, Michal Kaleta of Lassel Architects, Deputy Anthony Ciampi, Biddeford P.D., Kevin Chabot of Wells P.D., Allison Dimatteo from Oak Point Associates, Wade Lippert from Oak Point Associates and Chantel Tardif of Oak Point Associates.

1. Administrative
  - a. Attendance roster
  - b. Approve minutes from 5/12/23 meeting  
Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont motioned to approve the minutes. Fire Chief Matt Duross seconded the motion. Vote passed.
  
2. Architect/Engineers/Construction Manager
  - a. Reports & Status- (via ZOOM) Y.C. Chief Fire Administrator Rod Hooper commented that he received an inquiry from the brick company, so he is interested in how the plaza is going to turn out.  
Wade Lippert from Oak Point Associates presented site plans. There was a discussion of pond size.  
Wade explained that it did not need to be deep for DEP purposes. The maximum depth, though, cannot be more than 15 feet.  
Rick Smith said there will be two separate water sources needed and it was decided it made sense to have a loop for the fire trucks. For ice training, the depth of the pond would need to be the average height of a person.  
Wade asked what the average volume of water might be used in a day. Assistant Chief Rick Smith replied between 20,000 and 30,000 for pump training and 10,000 for the burn tower with this water being pumped back into the pond.  
Wade asked what the controls on smoke would be as the DEP will require us to address air emissions.  
Assistant Chief Smith explained that there won't be any more smoke than a campfire. We will only burn clean materials so it will create heat and only minimal smoke.  
Wade added that another DEP concern will be noise.  
Assistant Chief Smith replied that there will be diesel engines and occasionally squealing tires as well as sirens. Also, training won't be occurring daily. He added that they could put it out on social media when training occurs.  
There was discussion concerning the EVOC course such as embankments and water barriers and warning lights.  
Wade informed all that the plans show a gate.  
Deputy Ciampi asked about the stick building. County Manager Zinser explained that we can figure that out but we should incorporate the pad ahead of time. It was decided that a 30x40 ft. pad should be sufficient.

Allison Dimatteo from Oak Point Associates shared the landscaping design for the Training Center building with the Committee. County Manager Zinser questioned the amount of "brick"

space and asked if it was too large. After discussing, it was decided to stay with the plan as presented.

Michal Kaleta of Lassel Architects reviewed interior building lighting as well as 3D images of the interior of the building.

There was a discussion regarding wider seats in the auditorium. Michal will bring chair options back to the committee.

Fire Chief Rick Smith suggested perhaps upgrade the second floor conference room a bit and the committee discussed having a short counter with storage and a small refrigerator underneath.

b. Cost estimates, timeline, if available- no updates given

c. Permit process

Town (Zinser/deRochemont)

DEP (?)

County Manager Zinser informed all that there will be a DEP Public Hearing here on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Wade Lippert explained that this will be an opportunity to present the project to the community and answer any questions and hear concerns. He added that they are not required to make any modifications from this meeting. If the public has concerns, they need to submit them in writing to the DEP.

County Manager Zinser added that they are working with the Town and it is the other project that is more concerning to the Town.

Wade Lippert explained that also as part of the permitting process, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife will need to visit the property. They are backed up so we are just waiting to hear if there are any concerns there. He added that bats might be an issue and determine when we are allowed to clear the land.

EHP (Zinser/Cleaves)

County Manager Zinser informed all that as part of the Federal Funding requirement, there is an EHP study ongoing. An archaeologist had to go to the property and now a Botanist.

Others (?)

d. Entry Plaza – Brick Campaign.

3. Site Name

Strategic Planning & Readiness Center or Regional Training Center?

It was discussed among the Committee and the decision was made to call the center The York County Regional Training Center.

4. CDS Request Status. (Hooper)

a. Picked up by King, Collins: \$1.2m simulators

b. Picked up by King; \$6m construction

Chief Fire Administrator Hooper informed all that we may have to do some work to keep this at \$6 million as it may be reduced.

c. Funded \$750,000 for EMS Simulators- application submitted

He explained that the other CDS that is going through the DOJ for simulators and picked up by Senator King is now at the appropriations committee so we should know soon if it gets picked up.

5. Establish Subcommittees

a. Research EMS simulators- in progress (Hooper/Wellman)

Chief Fire Administrator Hooper informed all that he had met with Eric Wellman of YCCC to get the prices they paid for their simulators.

b. Research L/E simulators (Pending)

County Manager Zinser asked Chief Fire Administrator Hooper if they had decided on virtual reality simulators? He continued that they will have to start submitting itemized requests to those funding sources granted to us soon. Our original request was for theater type simulators. Now that those are not going to be purchased, we may have an opportunity to get money for the burn tower.

Discussion of doing away with the milo theater as the Committee has decided it makes sense to Go with VR training simulators. The discussion was to construct a wall with storage to secure the simulators. We can also now have more people in each room, commented County Manager Zinser. Chief Fire Administrator Hooper cautioned that they need to look at the VR systems first as some may use fire hoses.

c. Training Tower design (Pending RFP review/award)

6. Training Tower Vendors

a. Two responses to the RFP's received. Chiefs, on this committee, to meet to discuss This review is postponed for today but will be rescheduled.

7. Sustainable Funding

a. Fire and Police Chiefs' associations being contacted for input

County Manager Zinser informed all that he believes the average yearly cost of the facility on an annual basis is approximately \$750,000, including training. \$300,000 to \$400,000 is the approximate cost of training and the Fire Chiefs have said they will pay for training. He added that he will need to talk with Chief Jo-Ann Putnam regarding attending a Police Chief's meeting to discuss this matter.

County Manager Zinser continued that he had this conversation with the Town and City Managers and they support the concept.

County Manager Zinser reminded all that we need to reach out to vendors as funding from them could help to subsidize the cost of training.

8. Recent Field Trips

a. Planning trip to Brookline MA to see a WHP burn/tower. (Hooper)

Chief Administrator Hooper will work with the members regarding a date to go and see this burn tower.

9. Next meeting date?

July ??, 2023 0900 at EMA?

It was decided to meet on July 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

10. Adjourn

Rick deRochemont motioned to adjourn. Fire Chief Matt Duross seconded the motion.

Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.