

Minutes for 3rd meeting of Strategic Planning and Readiness Center Committee

March 4, 2022 @ 11:00 a.m. at the York County Government Building

PRESENT: Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont, CDC Liaison Adam Hartwig, Jail Administrator Major Nate Thayer, Chief Deputy Jeremy Forbes, Commissioner Donna Ring, Commissioner Richard Dutremble, County Manager Greg Zinser, Fire Administrator Rod Hooper, Fire Chief Matt DuRoss, Fire Chief Rick Smith

ABSENT: Police Chief Troy Cline, EMS Dept. Head Eric Wellman, EMS Chief David Hamel, YCCC Workforce Development Cait Grant

- 1. WELCOME and INTRODUCTIONS-** County Manager Zinser introduced Commissioners Ring and Dutremble.

County Manager Zinser gave an overview of some of the items the committee has been working on to date- architects, ongoing studies for septic on Rte. 4 with Sanford or on-site sewer, drawings to refine the buildings, working through our attorney for zoning. He explained that the property is located in a commercial zone so this project is allowed by law. We will combine the two lots for more road frontage. Deed change is all that is needed.

A document was developed by some members of this committee of all required trainings. This is proposed as a 24/7 facility with 26000 sq. ft. for training space.
- 2. Training Tower-** Fire Administrator Rod Hooper spoke of the Public Safety Training Tower that the committee is looking at. He explained this will be the heart of the training center as hands on training will happen here. Rod stated that Yarmouth, Fairfield and Farmington each have one. These are fire only facilities. He explained that there are a couple of other vendors but, the one we are looking at is the one the State went with.
- 3. Architect meeting from 2-9-** Fire Administrator Rod Hooper stated that it would include outside a dog track, pistol range and pump drafting site. County Manager Zinser asked if it would be live fire?

Rod Hooper replied that would be looked into it.

Fire Administrator Hooper explained that the diagrams are very rough drafts. He continued that four classrooms and simulators and a bay will support us. Rod asked the committee to think about things missed on drawing. Storage space is one item missed

Chief Matt DuRoss stated that he was struggling with 9600 square feet for the bay and that perhaps that could be made smaller. Rod Hooper agreed and suggested to bring it down to 6,000 sq. ft. CDC Liaison Adam Hartwig suggested shrinking the training bay. Discussion of space uses ensued.

It was discussed there needed to be two locker rooms, more storage space, 200 seat auditorium that opens up into training bay. Fire Administrator Rod Hooper will bring these items back to the architect. The committee members held a discussion of the gym being for attendees only. Members will contact Rod with any other ideas they come up with prior to him meeting with the architect again. County Manager Greg Zinser stated that we need to go look at some training facilities either in person or via ZOOM.

CDC Liaison Adam Hartwig suggested the Alford Center at UNE. Rod Hooper suggested field trips to Manchester and Farmington.

- 4. CTE Meetings-** Fire Administrator Hooper informed all that Sanford and Biddeford High School overwhelmingly want to be involved in this. He continued that we will want some sort of formal agreement with them so (the training center) will be a remote part of their school so every time they come here it isn't a field trip. County Manager Zinser replied that a white paper will need to be created for their schoolboards to review as they will need to approve this. Perhaps we convert this into a partnership agreement, suggested the County Manager.
- 5. Partnership agreements-** Jail Administrator Major Nate Thayer stated that Massabesic Adult Ed is trying to do a program for the ALERT test and is wondering if they could sign up for an office space. This could become a testing center, also, he suggested. Fire Administrator Hooper stated that the Maine Fire Service Institute is also interested in having a testing center here and is on board with this center. Adam Hartwig asked about offering courses for the nursing program. Rod Hooper responded that, yes, we can do that, too (RN/Paramedic bridge courses, etc.)
- 6. Field Trips-**Commissioner Dutremble commented that the more places we visit the better off we will be.

County Manager Zinser advised that all members talk to their respective associations about what the committee is working on. He added that he had a meeting with (the town and city) Managers earlier today so they need to know what is happening.

CDC Liaison Adam Hartwig offered to coordinate a field trip to the Alford Center at UNE. Fire Administrator Hooper stated, please do. Mr. Hartwig said the building needs lots of storage space.

Chief Deputy Jeremy Forbes offered his assistance with anything that might be needed. He added that the auditorium is huge and is needed. Law enforcement fitness is important.

Jail Administrator Major Nate Thayer stated that this is really good work and exciting. A lot of people can benefit from this, he commented.

Commissioner Ring stated that this is her first meeting and that she is very excited. Reach for the stars and go big or go home, she recommended. You will have to back off a little bit but she stated that she loves the concept. She told the committee members that they have done amazing work so far.

County Manager Zinser thanked Rod for his heavy lifting on this.

Chief Matt DuRoss informed all that Y.C. Fire Chief's Association's main focus is this.

Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont asked if the committee could tour a police academy.

Chief Deputy Jeremy Forbes replied, yes.

7. **Next Meeting Date-** April 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the York County Govt. Building.
8. **Adjourn-**Meeting adjourned.