



COUNTY OF YORK

*Robert L. Andrews
Vice-Chairperson
District 1*

*Richard R. Dutremble
District 2*

*Allen R. Sicard
Chairperson
District 3*

*Donna L. Ring
District 4*

*Richard Clark
District 5*

45 Kennebunk Road
Alfred, Maine 04002

(207) 459-2313
Fax (207) 324-9494
YC-Commish@yorkcountymaine.gov

*Gregory T. Zinser
County Manager*

*Kathryn A. Dumont
Assistant to the Manager*

*Linda M. Corliss
Deputy County Manager
Human Resource Director*

*Lorene B. Lemieux
Finance Director*

SEVENTH MEETING OF STRATEGIC PLANNING AND READINESS CENTER COMMITTEE MINUTES July 15, 2022 @ 8:30 a.m. at the York County Government Building

1. Administrative
 - a. Attendance rosters- Present: York County Fire & EMS Administrator Rod Hooper, Commissioner Dutremble, Commissioner Ring, Eric Wellman from MCCS, Fire Chief Rick Smith, Fire Chief Matt DuRoss, Jail Administrator Major Nathan Thayer, Facilities Manager Rick deRochemont, Adam Hartwig, Maine CDC, YCCC Workforce Development Administrator Cait Grant, Buxton Police Chief Troy Cline. Mihel Kaleta and Keegan Smith from Lassel Architects.
Excused: Greg Zinser, York County Manager, Linda Corliss, York County Deputy Manager, David Hamel, EMS Chief, Art Cleaves, EMA Director and Chief Deputy Jeremy Forbes
 - b. Approve minutes of June 9, 2022 meeting
Chief Rick Smith motioned to approve the minutes. Chief Matt Duross seconded the motion.
Vote - Unanimous
2. Architect
 - a. Floor Plan – Presentation. Mihel Kaleta from Lassel Architects shows plans that reflect the requested changes for the 41,000 square foot building. Mihel asks the committee if they are ready to move from the schematic to the development phase. There is discussion of cell size and storage space. One big cell is decided upon by Major Thayer.
Chief Hooper states that he would like to approve this plan (doesn't mean we are locked in) by voting to send to the engineers and get a better idea of costs. A discussion of classroom size ensued with Mihel informing all that the upstairs ones can be made into bigger ones. The Lecture Hall holds 80 people. Eric Wellman stated that right now you have great space. Can you occupy all of that space? Upfront probably not and that is where partnerships come in. Think about future needs. At first, you'll have lots of empty space, commented Mr. Wellman. Fire & EMS Administrator Hooper replied that there are lots of YCCC courses happening now that we can do at this center.
Chief Rick Smith makes motion to move the plans onto the engineering phase. Chief Cline seconds the motion. Vote unanimous.

b. Site plan - The site plan was not presented at this meeting, but Fire Administrator Hooper explains a bit of the site plan changed due to wetlands. Engineers are working on our water reclamation in the form of storm run-off but are shying away from gray water. We are looking at ways to not make us totally dependent on Alfred Water District such as the utilization of a 100,000-gallon water tank that will refill.

3. CDS Request Status.

a. Fy22 Collins: EOC funding. Application submitted to MEMA. Fire and EMS Administrator Hooper explained that we are waiting on FEMA but Art is working on this. EOC money cannot be used for construction.

b. Fy23 Collins: First Responder Workforce Development not picked up by Senator Collins.
EMS Simulators grant was picked up by Senator Collins.

c. Fy23 King: First Responder Workforce Development. Picked up by Senator King
EMS Simulators- Hopefully, we will know by October if they'll be picked up by Senator King stated Fire Administrator Hooper.

Commissioner Dutremble talked with Bonnie Pothier and she told him that Senator King will push as far as he can to get the money for us.

4. Alford Foundation Application- Fire Administrator Rod Hooper explained that part of the "ask" is for the whole package (housing and behavioral Health also) Adam Hartwig asked what the budget for the training center is? Fire Administrator Hooper replied that he doesn't know what dollar figure for ARPA has been set aside.

Commissioner Dutremble replied there was \$20 million for all projects. He reminded all that the sewage system is still an unknown. Facilities Manager, Rick deRochemont added that the HVAC system cost estimates are not coming in low. Fire Administrator Rod Hooper explains that he is trying to get budgets from other companies and counties that run training centers. He asks Jail Administrator Thayer to get what it costs to run an academy for corrections officers. He adds that they also need the cost to run a Police academy.

Districts 1 and 2 are looking very heavily on getting an academy down here so if you build it, they will come, states Buxton Police Chief Cline. Major Thayer agrees and states that he envisions the whole academy for Southern Maine being at our center. The State Legislature can change that there is only one State academy. Chief Cline state that it makes sense to have a Southern, Central and Northern academy. Discussion of once someone is through the academy, they could get job offers. Discussion of registry of those trained to be firefighters for hire (job-ready). N.H. has this but Maine does not.

a. Grant writer hired-

b. Target date to submit: Sept 2022

5. Training Towers.

a. Met with local Lion dealer, Fire Tech & Safety, set for June 29. Fire Administrator Hooper informed all that he is planning a follow up meeting with representatives from Lion in August and will bring back ideas of what we are looking for. I would like more input from SRT people. He added that he has invited them to the meetings, but they have not attended yet. Fire Administrator Hooper added that the S.B. Police Chief showed up. I know they are extremely busy but important for them to be here for planning stage. Chief Cline will assist with getting them to the meetings.

Fire Chief Duross commented that he did not know if it was prudent to vote to spend money this morning. I don't want to not have enough money for this facility, he stated.

Chief Fire and EMS Administrator Hooper explained that we will get costs for each item (fire tower, etc.) and it will all be a package. We need it all. The final costs we will have to go to the Commissioners, he explained. We have grant requests to be submitted to the Alford Foundation. Hopefully, these will be submitted in September.

6. Future Field Trips

a. NH public safety academy. July 26. Concord NH

See FAAC and MILO simulators

-b. Guilford, CT FD. Planning for week of August 15th-

See Draeger training facility

7. Discussion of formation of a non-profit organization to raise funds for training center

Fire Administrator Hooper explained that a 501 C3 could be created for fundraising for this project that would be separate from the county but recognized by the county. He continued that he has talked with Attorney Brad Moore on setting this up. We would obtain a tax i.d. number totally independent from the County. Once this is established, we can look for corporate donors, explained Fire Administrator Hooper.

It is still a county building, stated Fire Administrator Hooper. It was advised by committee members to not single out York County as those outside of York County can also use facility. First pick will go to York County residents for training courses and preferential pricing.

Adam Hartwig asked if there will be staff to run this? Fire Administrator Hooper replied that he envisions a support organization. This is strictly a fund-raising group. He suggested that there is perhaps a separate meeting held with those who want to be in this organization.

Adam Hartwig announced that the CDC would like to get back into counties. I'd like to make sure this gets top billing. Perhaps we have a visit and explain the vision of this committee and have them see what this group as well as the other committees are doing. Adam added that the association with the community college is such an "out of the box" and great idea.

Fire Administrator Hooper said that he and EMA Director Cleaves will talk to Greg about this. He added that maybe a few folks should be part of this meeting with the State.

Commissioner Dutremble commented that we need more PR work and we need to talk to the press more.

Commissioner Ring suggested perhaps give committee updates at meetings. Fire Administrator Hooper stated that the County Manager is reluctant to go the press before we go formally to the town.

8. Next meeting date- August 25th at 8:30 a.m. at the York County Government Building. (postponed)