

Governance group, 02/03/17, 12:00 Noon.

Present: Rick McGuire, Dawn Francis, Aaron Frank, Ray Coffey, Kevin Dorn, Tom Hubbard, Ann Janda, Steve Locke, Charlie Baker, Lee Krohn, and Joe Colangelo by phone

Perspectives on the Jan. 31 presentations: generally positive, momentum underway. Issues to resolve, as known and anticipated. Concerns about job security, transition issues, sorting out actual staffing needs, job expectations...need to sort through the wide array of tasks currently performed by dispatchers, which are essential to maintain, can be backfilled by other staff, will need to be addressed. Relates to community desires/expectations, staffing, finances.

Need to come up with an onboarding strategy that first gives preference to current staff. We will have to delve into this more deeply in the future. Union Municipal District clearly the preferred governance model; yet concerns will arise regional service vs. local control or l...cost vs. quality/service improvement.

Keep governance work as high level policy, set direction.

Baker reviewed list of upcoming meetings with Councils/Selectboards to update on project, and seek support to continue work and make appointments to Joint Survey Committee: Winooski and South Burlington on Feb. 6; Shelburne and Colchester on Feb. 14th; Essex on Feb. 20; Milton and Williston on Feb. 21; Essex Junction on the 28th; and Burlington on the 13th or 27th.

Communication/involvement with dispatchers: perhaps two reps from governance, two from technical subcommittee, try to get one dispatcher from each of the six existing dispatch centers. Kevin, Steve, Ann will go through Police Chiefs to initiate. Aaron offered to work on a charge for this group with those who volunteered.

Next governance group meetings are Thursday 2/16 8AM and Thursday, 3/9 at noon both at Colchester Town Offices.

Charter work group: Kevin, Dawn and Charlie volunteered to work on this. Discussion of eventual governing board and voting. There was interest in proposing managers or designee as the board members due to the interdependency of dispatch for other critical services for which the managers are directly accountable. There was respect that there needed to be a rationale and input/accountability back to the legislative bodies. The CSWD process of Selectboard/Council votes on budget was noted as a way to provide direct input. Selectboards/Councils will decide if the concept is advanced to a public vote and as such their concerns will be addressed. There was a discussion of weighted voting and a discussion that fairness and equity needed to be considered so that a Charter that is acceptable to all Selectboards/Councils and Councils is drafted.

Other tasks clarified. It was agreed to wait for further press releases until JSC is approved and created.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 P.M.