

Dutchess County Citizen's Advisory Committee Minutes October 15, 2018

Present: Christopher Howard, Timothy Murphy, Dennis Quinn, Dana Smith, Cathi Tegtmeier, Chris Maeder, John Mahoney, Jim Pearson, Dave Violante, Devon Navarro, Ken Roman

Introductions of committee members were made. Dr. Papish has also been approached to be on this committee. Dana stated that this group should be candid, honest, and no one should hesitate to speak. Also, we are looking for solutions-we are not looking to blame.

Dana started with reviewing the Mission Statement and Objectives of the committee (see attached).

Structure of Committee: We will be electing a Chairman and Vice Chair. Please consider this opportunity.

Town of Amenia was awarded a grant to study the possible consolidation of Amenia, North East, Village of Millerton, and Town of Dover EMS services. A meeting was held on 10/24 at the Amenia Town Hall to release and present this report.

It was discussed that there are opportunities for cost savings. Also, if a solution is developed, municipalities want to get out of the EMS business.

East and West Clinton Fire Depts, who have the highest inability to respond, have been resistant to any conversation. They have no Mutual Aid contract or paid provider contracts. They appear to be unwilling to set up a meeting with DCER. Q-What is the oversight of these departments? A-The state is supposed to regulate inability to respond but there is very little response by the state.

We have been awarded a grant (from Dutchess County) in the amount of 150K to hire a consultant to investigate Establishing an EMS Authority. The consultant will work with this committee. Currently there are no EMS Authorities in NYS. We are hoping to release the RFPs by the end of this month. We are expecting the consultant's final report within 1 year (2019), and we would like to consider implementation in 2020.

Essex County is applying thru the state to have their own CON (Certificate of Need). With that, their county Dept. of Health can operate on their behalf. If that happens Essex Co. would become the provider of EMS. Dutchess County does not want to take on this responsibility.

Columbia County has a CON so they can manage their agencies, however, they have 5 agencies compared to Dutchess Counties 22 agencies.

There will be an EMS 101 presentation on Friday, October 26, 2018 at 11:30 at DCER.

To Do:

- John will send a copy of the Town of Amenia Report to all committee members.
- We will ask Larry Brody to make the committee a map of the county.
- John will send everyone the link to the EMS Task Force Report.

Our next meeting will be held Friday November 30th @ DCER from 11:30-1:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

Laurie Colgan