

## **Dutchess County Citizen's Advisory Committee Minutes October 21, 2019**

Present: Dennis Quinn, Dana Smith, John Mahoney, Chris Maeder, Cathi Tegtmeier,  
Ken Roman, Christopher Howard  
By Phone: David Violante

Minutes from the September 17, 2019 meeting were approved.

**Old Business:** Reports from our sub committees were given.

Public Information Committee: Cathi: Awaiting approval on the survey. Need to find a date for data entry from the paper surveys that were conducted at the Senior Citizen's Picnic.

Elected Official/EMS Leadership Education Committee: Dana: On December 4, 2019 the Citizen's Advisory Committee will provide a presentation updating the Dutchess EMS Council on the work the committee has been conducting followed by a question and answer session. Dennis inquired who made up the Dutchess EMS Council, Dana informed him that any department that provides EMS, (transport, first response, Air Medical, hospitals) may join the council. As of the last meeting of the Dutchess EMS Council there were 12 paying departments. The Dutchess EMS Council has representation at the Hudson Valley Regional EMS Council. Chris Maeder, Dana and John will work on a draft presentation for next Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting.

John M to provide committee members a list of those departments who attended the meeting with CGR in May

The Northeast RFP: Dana stated there is agreement in principal. It will be a 5 year contract, with a zero percent increase in the first year, and then a 2 percent increase for the next 4 years. The 3 ambulances will provide mutual aid to each other, which is something that was not automatically done prior.

CGR Contract: Received analysis of legal environment from Harris Beach, looking for a clarification or two from them, and will send out a standalone memo next week. Awaiting approval for the provider's survey and from NY State on the FOIA requests.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** On October 30, 2019 the County Executive will announce his proposed budget for 2020. \$50,000 is proposed to hire a consultant to develop a program to engage college and high school student to incentivize volunteerism in fire service and EMS and to provide education on the Fire and EMS Services.

\$25,000 is proposed to work with volunteer BLS agencies in the Northwest part of the County to collaborate on staffing 1 BLS ambulance 24 hours a day 7 days a week. There are many issues to resolve for this to occur. NY State Department of EMS stated they will provide assistance. Dutchess County to sign a contract with Spotted Dog so all agencies in Dutchess County can join without cost to the department, which will assist departments with information sharing.

Dennis: Massapequa in Nassau County provides in house training in their volunteer fire departments. Dutchess County also has programs that provide training, they are not very well known.

Chris M discussed the feasibility of EMT training at BOCES now that the age to become an EMT in NY is 17.

Dave V: Incentive programs are more prominent in the fire service then in EMS. There are some legal issues that have arisen with 17 year olds being certified as EMT's (unable to sign contracts, etc.)

Chris M. spoke about time and cost commitment involved with college students joining department. He prefers a 3 year commitment for volunteers who lack training and experience and a 1 -2 year commitment for those who already have training and experience. He read an email from a past Fairview FD member who thanked him and his department for the training and experience he received while going through college. This past member is now a Firefighter with the Fire Department of the City of New York.

Next meeting: November 18, 2019 at 11:30 am.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted:

John Mahoney

Respectfully Submitted:

Laurie Colgan