

Baltimore Metropolitan Council



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Anne Arundel County
Baltimore City
Baltimore County
Carroll County
Harford County
Howard County

BMC BOARD OF DIRECTORS JULY 22, 2008

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Honorable Sheila Dixon, Mayor, Baltimore City
Honorable John Leopold, Anne Arundel County Executive
Honorable James T. Smith, Jr., Baltimore County Executive
Honorable Ken Ulman, Howard County Executive

OTHERS PRESENT

Andrew Frank, Baltimore City
Elaine Garven, Baltimore City
Frank Principe, Baltimore County
Lorraine Costello, Harford County
Aaron Greenfield, Howard County

GUESTS

Celeste Amato, Director, Cleaner, Greener Baltimore Initiative
Noel Chesser, South River Consulting
Josh Easton, Baltimore City
Frances B. Phillips, Health Officer, Anne Arundel County Department of Health
Darla Herbold, Howard County
Karen L. Holt, Regional BRAC Manager, Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor
Robert Maloney, Director, Mayor's Office of Emergency Management, Baltimore City
Steve Myers, Baltimore County
Bert Wilson, South River Consulting

BMC STAFF

Larry Klimovitz, Executive Director
Harry Bain
Harvey S. Bloom
Monica Haines
Barbara Herron
Sandra Spears

The meeting opened at 3:15 p.m. with Chairman Ulman suggesting that we begin with scheduled presentations.

Presentations

County Executive Ulman introduced Robert Maloney, Director of the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to present the quarterly update by the Urban Area Work Group (UAWG).

Mr. Maloney stated that he stands at the front of now 17 subcommittees comprised of leaders from all of the six jurisdictions. He then gave a quarterly summary of where we are currently and where we plan to go. Mr. Maloney referred to the powerpoint presentation. During his overview he stated that:

- FY '07 UASI spending is underway and that collaboration of local experts to develop regional security strategy and spending plans has begun. All of these expenditures focus on preparedness gaps and prioritized needs. The projects are prioritized regionally rather than simply dividing UASI funds among the several jurisdictions.
- FY '08 award announcement is expected in July. The application was submitted on May 2, 2008 and the expected award announcement is July 29, 2008. The budgets will be developed in August.
- The new subcommittee established is the Fiber and Data Interoperability Committee. This committee will coordinate strategy and implementation of fiber infrastructure and move toward interoperability of emergency response data networks between jurisdictions.
- The Ready? Set? Good Campaign was developed with UASI funds in 2004. The funding continued in FY '06 and '07. The campaign won a National Association of Counties (NACO) award in 2008. The Public Information Officers committee is currently working with Wal-Mart to create a new public-private partnership supporting the campaign.
- In the area of expanded collaboration on other Homeland Security Grants, Mr. Maloney stated that the Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant (PSIC) - \$4.3 million for the region. Also, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene reduced the cost purchase program for Tamiflu. He also noted the Interoperable Emergency Communications Planning Grant - \$209,000 and the large scale regional decontamination exercise.
- All FY '06 projects are nearing completion. He stated that Mass Prophylaxis Cache for biological terrorist attack is ready. The Shelf Life Extension Program remains an issue.

Ms. Frances B. Phillips, RN, MHA, Health Officer for the Anne Arundel County Department of Health briefed the Board on the Shelf Life Extension Program (SLEP) of stockpiled pharmaceuticals. She stated that in addition to working with County Executive Leopold, she also works closely with each of the health officers from each of the jurisdictions. She then gave a brief background on the Cache Project. She stated that in FY '07, the UASI allocated \$500,000 of U. S. DHS grant funds towards the purchase of an antibiotic stockpile to protect first responders and other essential employees and their families. The contents of the cache were six million pills with 10-day courses of Doxycycline and Ciprofloxacin. The purpose of this was to secure antibiotics to be used in a public health emergency, such as a release of aerosolized anthrax, in order to protect essential workforce in advance of arrival of federal assets. The recipients of the cache are Annapolis, Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, and Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties. The target population is 106,000 essential public and hospital employees plus two family members each. Agencies includes: county leadership, fire/EMS, law enforcement, health, public works, emergency management, and hospitals. The stockpile is stored at the Anne Arundel County warehouse in Millersville, Maryland. The medications are stored in a separate room inside the warehouse. They are secured by a dedicated alarm and monitored by a closed-circuit television and

motion detectors. The medications are protected by constant temperature and humidity controls. Local jurisdictions may access their allotment of medications through mutual aid agreements. Local health departments in each jurisdiction have plans to distribute. Ms. Phillips stated that medications have a limited shelf life (Doxycycline – two years and Ciprofloxacin – three years). **UASI cache expiration dates are: Ciprofloxacin – 11/30/09 and Doxycycline – 02/31/10).** She stated that two proposed approaches are: immediate – engage all hospitals in the region in developing pharmacy rotation agreements with the UASI stockpile. The Long Term is that SLEP allows for reduced drug replacement costs for date sensitive medicines by extending their expiration dates. SLEP is not available to state or local jurisdictions. Currently, jurisdictions must discard large stockpiles of medications every two to three years. Advocate that the federal government permit non-federal entities to participate in SLEP.

This was followed by a discussion with Board members as to how we can become involved in the Federal government program. It was agreed that this is a liability issue that does not allow us to participate. The group discussed what options we have and County Executive Ulman stated that those present today are willing to support this. County Executive asked if any contact had been made with our delegation. County Executive Ulman instructed Ms. Phillips to coordinate an effort with Mr. Klimovitz to get this started.

Mr. Klimovitz introduced Ms. Karen Holt, Regional BRAC Manager for the Chesapeake Science and Security Corridor (CSSC), of which the BMC is a partner. She is going to update on the CSSC and in a subsequent meeting we will have the Ft. Meade peers and counterparts to do the same thing.

Ms. Holt stated that her position started as a marketing effort when the BRAC 2005 decision was announced. People needed to know more about Aberdeen Proving Grounds. CSSC identified the top of the Chesapeake Bay and the central Maryland region as an opportunity for identity. We have joined alliances with our regional partners and solidified and made it a more formal process. There is a staff at the HEAT Center, located in Aberdeen. This staff serves as a communications clearinghouse. Our regional partners include Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Harford and Cecil. There are also strategic partners in York, Lancaster, Chester, PA and New Castle County, Delaware that have BRAC impacted areas. Ms. Holt referred to the packet and the update on BRAC issues. She stated that old buildings are being taken down and equipment is tasked with the preparations for moving the 715 gate inward and new buildings are standing. Regarding the workforce, Ms. Holt reported that approximately 340 jobs are anticipated to transfer to APG by the end of summer and only about 130 current Ft. Monmouth personnel are intending to transfer with them. Recruitment is currently in full swing for the 200+ vacancies. Ms. Holt then briefly discussed the APG Technology Showcase held June 18-19. She stated that it was well attended. The two-day event was attended by 344 participants and featured 32 exhibiting organizations. Two more motor coach tours have been organized by New Jersey installation personnel to give prospective relocatees a tour of their new workplace location. This also allows them to get a glimpse of communities in Harford and Cecil counties. Ms. Holt then reviewed the upcoming events (attached). She added that all of this information is on the website.

Mr. Klimovitz stated the CSSC meets on a monthly basis. He asked if the base commander sees any areas for improvement. At the last meeting, it was stated that we are on track. We are losing the military presence at Aberdeen. They are going to Ft. Lee, Virginia. New construction and people are moving from Ft. Monmouth. He has stated that it is not having an impact and we are on target. The transition has been positive. County Executive Ulman thanked Ms. Holt and stated that excitement has only begun.

County Executive Ulman called for the approval of the minutes from the April 22, 2008 meeting. County Executive Leopold motioned for approval and it was seconded by Mayor Dixon. As there were no changes or additions, the minutes were approved unanimously by voice vote.

Consideration of Regional Participation in Mayor's Cleaner Greener Baltimore Campaign

Mayor Dixon stated that Ms. Celeste Amato will be doing the presentation. The overall campaign impact not only affects Baltimore City, but the region. She will share this campaign to maybe have you consider or join in because trash has no boundaries.

Ms. Amato stated that she is heading up Mayor Dixon's initiative for a cleaner, greener Baltimore. The campaign is intended to engage residents, businesses, commuters and students in an effort to create a cleaner greener city and a cleaner region. She stated that the two primary partners in the efforts are the Baltimore Community Foundation, who is fiscal partner and on our grassroots efforts, which are directed at community outreach, Planet Advertising was selected through a competitive process. They have been offering their creative services, pro bono. They have developed a campaign aimed at changing our city and the region's acceptance of litter and negative behaviors that allow it to accumulate. It has been 30 years since the city or even national organizations have promoted significant consistent anti-litter messaging. We are seeing the signs of it and probably our surrounding jurisdictions. Baltimore City and County work to clean up our waterways. Ms. Amato then presented a power point presentation. She stated that people do not put their trash out in the proper way. We have been providing trashcans, improving curbside collections, etc. Our tonnage is up 20% from last year, but citizens have to do their part. We surveyed 500 regional residents and 20% admitted to littering and half admitted to witnessing someone else litter and doing nothing about it. Half of the respondents agreed that residents are responsible for keeping their home and jurisdictions clean. Respondents also agreed that education, enforcement, and confronting litterers would be a way of stopping littering. Over half believe that they will never be fined for littering. Those who wanted to learn more wanted it via mail or TV. The campaign is telling you exactly what we want you to do about it. Litter and trash are costing money no matter who drops it or where it ends up. We have been focused on putting a multi-media campaign together. Baltimore City handles its own trash service with 130 vehicles. They are in every alley twice a week. We are going to use them as billboards with very blunt messages. Ms. Amato also stated that they are doing a lot of work with our watersheds. Most people have no idea that they live in a watershed. Our storm drains are not leading to a filtration system that would clean the litter out of the stormwater. We are also taking advantage of public trashcans to try and grab peoples' attention. The multi-media campaign is essential to reach our resident as well as the region. We need to get more of us thinking about trash. One person can make the difference and we need more of them to show up. Statistically, litterers are 18-24 year old males across the country. We would like to challenge our surrounding jurisdictions to join and make it a regional campaign. The messaging can be easily tailored unique to each of our jurisdictions. Planet Advertising is willing to work with all of us. The power of the message is multiplied the more we use it outside of Baltimore City.

Mayor Dixon stated that we have been worked on this for the last 16 months and have been making progress. We think that with this media campaign we can change peoples' concept and it would be great to have some collaboration from the entire region. County Executive Ulman congratulated the Mayor on a good job. He stated that each of us is doing exciting things in our jurisdictions, but he thought that the BMC could be a forum for that. He suggested getting our environmental point people together and figure out how to work together on this and other areas. We could come up with a lot of regional ideas.

County Executive Leopold and County Executive Smith agreed that having the BMC act as a forum for these types of regional campaigns is a great idea. County Executive Smith suggested that we get our reps together and meet here and flush out various regional initiatives that we could share and then join. He stated that it raises the stature of our region.

Ms. Amato stated that Baltimore City owns the trademark ('Don't Make Excuses – Make a Difference') and is happy to share. Mr. Klimovitz stated that he would pull together a group and report back at the next meeting, as well as keeping the Management Committee updated. After some discussion, it was agreed that everyone would participate. Ms. Amato also informed the Board that the Potomac Watershed in DC also approached Baltimore City to join in on the campaign. She stated that several presentations have been made to them. Mr. Frank also asked that if there are businesses in the community that would be interested and we could pitch this to let us know.

Program Updates

County Executive Ulman asked for the report from the BRCPC. Mr. Klimovitz introduced Ms. Darla Herbold, Howard County and Mr. Steve Myer. Ms Herbold reported on the savings from the BRCPC's energy portfolio. FY 08 savings relative to BGE's SOS rates are \$20.8 million and retailed fixed rates are \$12.8 million. The market to market as of July 1, 2008 is \$27.4 million. This represents the cost of replacing previous fixed rate purchases of natural gas commodity for future delivery at today's prices. In the area of natural gas the savings right now is \$1.5 million relative to previous full requirements.

Mr. Myer stated that at the last meeting he discussed one of the new challenges in the electricity market. This was the change in the capacity charge. Our consultants recommended we take a two-fold approach and try to reduce our demand and capacity on the hottest days of the year. Throughout the summer, each day we have a service given to us from South River (peak load contribution). This comes via e-mail. Our facilities are not able to curtail all at the same time. South River determined which accounts they used to determine capacity tags. We are going to put together a plan for what we are going to do on particular days. The second part of the package is where we want to encourage generation to be built in our region. Mr. Myer explained that the way we do this is to buy power, it is bought in small pieces and we hedge. We buy up to two years ahead. We can do this on a longer period with a person who is willing to building a 100 mw power plant. He stated that we are putting together a bid package to seek proposals on developing a purchase power agreement, where we would buy a consistent load for a period for 10-15 years. We envision putting together a package and start to solicit proposals around September 1st.

This was followed by a brief discussion regarding power plants and who the RFP will be geared to. Mr. Myer stated that this is what we are working on and that we will report back at the next meeting.

Mr. Klimovitz distributed a handout with the other activities of the BRCPC (attached).

Mr. Klimovitz stated that in the June, 2008 financials, the numbers that we are taking to our auditors are \$132,202 in net income. We only projected \$74,783. This will be the eighth year in a row that we end in a positive note. This will be the fifth year that in six figures. He stated that he sent invoices to Management Committee and budget directors for FY '09 dues. Along with that went a computation of how much you get back from BMC as opposed to what you pay in. It is a net savings to all of you.

Ms. Herron thanked Baltimore County for submitting Ready, Set, Good Emergency Preparedness Campaign to NACO.

Ms. Klimovitz continued by reporting that the MPO Recertification went well. Federal representatives were here on June 23, 24, and 25th. They were very pleased with what they saw insofar as our current MPO process. We were also complimented on our public participation process and are expecting to get a firm recertification in September or October.

Regarding the Transportation Trust Fund Revenues, Mr. Klimovitz reported that the “additional” \$471 M in State funding for transportation has been evaluated by the BRTB and it has been noted that considering inflation in general and the anticipated additional rise in fuel, materials and construction costs – the actual “buying power” of these funds would be closer to \$360 M or \$14.4 M annually over the next 25 years.

He stated that the Management Committee met on July 8th and suggests a 2-phase plan in order for the BRTB to amend the current plan in a way that addresses some immediate needs AND concerns raised previously over the need for a long term vision (transit) for the Plan.

1. The first 5 years of funding would be committed to “local, short term, transit related projects” such as expansion of Park and Ride facilities; completion of dedicated bus lanes where feasible; and BRAC related commuter or shuttle bus services. BRTB will develop a list of projects eligible under the federal project funding requirements and will provide parameters for projects to be considered.
2. BRTB will agree to dedicate the remaining additional funds to mass transit – Green Line in particular. BRTB may need to determine if MTA will consider breaking down the overall project into segments in order to comply with funding requirements – usually all required funds must be identified prior to inclusion in the Plan.

The Management Committee also recommends that the BRTB (with elected officials attending) hold a public meeting to offer these suggestions and public input. Funding limitations could be explained; short term project parameters could be provided with examples; long term transit oriented vision could be expressed.

Offering the opportunity for public input would improve the “public perception” of accessibility and transparency of the BMC/BRTB process.

Public Board meeting must be followed by a public comment period (30 days after the T2035 amendments are made public), a time in which the record is held open. After this, if desired, the BRTB would hold another public meeting when the amendments are finalized.

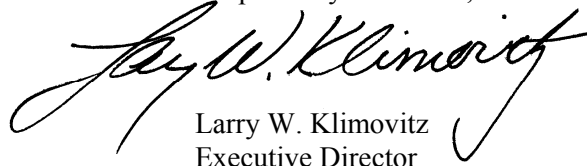
County Executive Ulman asked if the Board would be involved in this process. Mr. Klimovitz stated that it hasn’t been decided whether it should be the Board or the Empowered Reps.

Mr. Klimovitz then discussed the BMC/ULI Forum on Climate Change/Land Use. The three dates are set and we will give an update at our October 21st Board meeting

Mr. Klimovitz reported on the lease negotiations for office space. He noted the attachment with details.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Larry W. Klimovitz
Executive Director

