

South Central Assembly

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

February 20, 2013, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

PSU – Harrisburg

Olmsted, Room 308E

**Attending:**

In person: Harrison Bink, Phil Briddell, Beverly Cigler, David Davare, George Klaus, Ray Klein, Steve Peterson, Steve Snell, and RoseMarie Swanger and staff, Stephen Scanlon

By telephone: Edward Knittel, Penny Myers, Kari Reagan-Bushey, Anthony Salomone, and Kris Troup.

**Call to order**: The meeting opened at 3:15 p.m., President Peterson presiding.

**Approval of minutes.**

A motion to approve the minutes of January 16, 2013 was made. One correction was made. The motion was unanimously approved.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Program Committee Reports**

Community Revitalization

The committee is focusing its attention on economic development support of 3rd class cities with intentions to meet with their mayors. The committee reached out to the other Assembly committees to clarify that there was not a competing jurisdictional development interest.

There was none.

Housing & Community Development

The Committee has identified its focus as housing and blight development. It is developing housing influencials teams of two to meet with six regional groups in order to gain insight. The teams will work from a common outline. Teams will also encourage involvement in the Housing and Community Development Committee.

The committee announced its April 10 Housing Best Practices event to take place at PSU-Capital Campus. It will feature John Kromer of the Fels Institute.

Local Government

No report

Regional Council of Colleges

Committee thinking is focusing attention on facilitating educational institutions (colleges) exchange of best practices information about linking colleges to their communities.

The committee is building up contacts at different colleges. Former Assembly board member Rusty Shunk (Dickenson ret.) has agreed to participate on the committee.

**Administrative Committee Reports**

Executive Committee

No report

Finance Committee

Klein proposed that a representative of each committee serve on Finance. He invited representatives to an initial meeting that would be set up. Klaus indicated that Gulotta had expressed to him his desire to represent the Housing Committee.

Klaus stated the proposal in the form of a **Motion: Each Program Committee will be represented on the Finance Committee.** Seconded by Bink.

Discussion: Committees will decide amongst members and respond to Klein by March 10. The Community Revitalization Committee is not yet coalesced such that it can provide a representative.

Vote: In favor 13, none opposed, one abstention (Snell).

Nominations Committee

Besch has withdrawn from the committee. Klaus will act as convener. Swanger and Zumbrun are members. They will address the need to fill a new slate of officers and fill open board seats.

Treasure

No change to report

**Presentation**

Swanger and Devare gave presentations on Pennsylvania property tax reform initiatives including the current initiative: House Bill 1776 / Senate Bill 1400. Copies of their presentations are available at <http://www.southcentralassembly.org/local-government.html>.

It has been stated that tax reform needs to do three things to be successful: 1) keep legislators from receiving complaints about property taxes; 2) provide funding increases to local officials without raising taxes; and 3) reduce the tax burden on everyone. Therefore, it can be quite difficult to achieve reform.

Following the presentations and discussion, the Local Government Committee was asked to consider how the Assembly might pursue the topic as a way to expand the discussion and enlighten the community. A suggestion was made that this might be a topic for a summit or at least a workshop.

**For the General Good of the Order**

None

**Adjournment**

With business completed, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next meeting April 17, 2013, 3:00 p.m. at PSU-Harrisburg, Olmsted Bldg, Rm C-300

Call in number: [(814) 863-0008](tel:%28814%29%20863-0008)