

Minutes
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Executive Committee
April 11, 2007

233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 800, Chicago, Illinois

I. Call to Order

Mayor Gerald Bennett of Palos Hills and Chair of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Members were asked to introduce themselves.

The meeting was held in the offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), 233 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois. Those present included: Gerald R. Bennett-Chair (Mayor, City of Palos Hills, southwest Cook County), Rita R. Athas- Vice Chair (Deputy Chief of Staff-Mayor's Office, City of Chicago), Mike Smith-Vice Chair (Mayor-New Lenox, Will County), Elliott Hartstein (President-Buffalo Grove, Lake County), Al Larson (President- Schaumburg, Northwest Cook County), Marilyn Michelini (President-Montgomery, Kane/Kendall Counties) Ed Paesel (ED-SSMMA, NIPC) and Nigel F. Telman (Partner- Sidley Austin, City of Chicago) and Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn.

A motion, made by Mayor Mike Smith to move the Executive Committee to an executive session, exception 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) of the open meetings act to discuss a matter of potential legal action against CMAP, was seconded by Mayor Elliott Hartstein.

II. Potential Claims Against CMAP

Executive Director Randy Blankenhorn directed the committee to a letter that had been received from Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), after an audit conducted late last summer as well as CMAP's response and their reply to the response. Two matters were in question, the first of which involved the move of CATS to the Sears Tower and a dispute over \$220,000 of operational expenses. A memorandum of agreement between NIPC and IDOT indicated that NIPC would not be responsible for the expenses. While staff feels that the audit, technically, may be correct, the underlying agreement should have taken precedence. Unofficially, it is believed that CMAP could either (a) fight it, or (b) come up with \$220,000. If CMAP were to have to pay the \$220,000 in cash, staff would recommend disputing the matter. However, if IDOT were to withhold unspent federal funds that were available because of the transition and lower than expected staffing levels, staff's recommendation would be to comply. The second matter involves practices by NIPC related to rental cars for personal use (resulting in a suspension of one employee) and certain entertainment expenses (that included the purchase of alcohol) that pose real problems for CMAP. While the expenses may have been paid out of local funds, it involves the use of public money. Specifically, an IML conference reception had been

sponsored by NIPC and for which HNTB had been expected to fund. In reality, however, HNTB only covered half of the costs, the remainder of which was paid by NIPC.

A lengthy discussion ensued and the Executive Committee, while appalled, agreed that CMAP had adopted policies and internal controls that would prevent this kind of spending in the future, expressed their appreciation for how the matter was handled, and echoed the need for NIPC to be disbanded, so that CMAP could advance through the transition smoothly. CMAP Executive Director was advised to speak to the NIPC chair and its Executive Committee of these matters too.

The Executive Committee also advised the Chairman talk to the Secretary and the Executive Director work with staff to move forward with an arrangement that shows no guilt and requires no cash payment, as related to the operational expenses that were in dispute.

III. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the executive session made by Mayor Al Larson was seconded by Rita Athas. All in favor, the motion carried.

/stk

01-25-2011

Approved as presented, by unanimous vote, March 9, 2011; authorized for release January 11, 2012