

MCAB Board Minutes

Date: February, 10, 2014

Board Member

Attendance

David Rassbach (Chairman)	Present
Howard Hoffman (Vice Chairman)	Present
Jim Kravitz (Secretary)	Present
Peter Kuhn	Present
Bill Carroll	Present
Jeff Pasquale	Not Present
Jerry Denick	Present
Greg Waks (Supervisor Liaison)	Present
Don Herbert (Interim Staff Liaison)	Present

Additional Attendees:

Scott Widenhofer

Called to Order: 7:00pm

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Old Business

A. Real Time Traffic Information Using Township Traffic Cameras

A teleconference was arranged by Scott Widenhofer between the MCAB and Steve Penrod from Rhythm Engineering. Steve Penrod explained that there are single-frame, JPEG photos available from these traffic cameras, each with a 30 second refresh period. There is also traffic flow data and light timing data available as well. Further research would have to be done as to how to make this information available to UM township, how often, and how to make it pertinent and available to the citizens of the township. There was additional discussion about making the information available through a Smartphone app. Mr. Hoffman had some reservations as to the value of this information to the citizens. He questioned if the cost of providing this information would be worth the benefit. Chairman Rassbach called to form a committee to do further research on this. The committee will consist of Pete Kuhn, Jeff Pasquale and Bill Carroll.

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Howard Hoffman made a motion to approve the minutes of the prior month's meeting. The motion was seconded by Jerry Denick. The minutes were unanimously approved by the board.

IV. Comments from the Chairman

Chairman Rassbach reiterated that our role as an advisory board is to establish “what can be” and make it available to the township. He also updated the board on Carla Showell-Lee’s medical leave of absence. Don Herbert and Justin Friend will be filling in for Carla in her absence. Don Herbert will also act as the Staff Liaison to the MCAB.

V. Reports

A. Emergency Communication Management to the Township Citizens

Don Herbert reported that there are PennDOT traffic cameras available online and the township is looking into making these camera feeds available on the GATV channel as well as on the UM Township website. Don also mentioned that during snow storms, the snow emergency route information is posted on the Bulletin Board on the GATV channel as well.

B. Emergency Shelter Discussion

Discussion on an Emergency Shelter was brought up. Supervisor Waks mentioned that with the new Senior Center opening soon, the township may be able to use the 100,000 sq. ft. facility as an emergency shelter.

C. Municipal Map Update

The new municipal township map will be mailed to township citizens during the week of Feb. 17th. There will also be maps available at the township building.

D. UM Township Twitter Account Update

Don Herbert updated the board that the UM Township Twitter account has been launched.

E. Comcast Franchise Agreement Update

Chairman Rassbach told the board that Comcast will not honor the original consortium agreement with UM Township. Comcast will only agree to the revised agreement which is based on the agreement Comcast has with Skippack township. There was further discussion as to if UM township should sign this revised agreement or continue to try and negotiate with Comcast. It was agreed to revisit this issue at the March MCAB meeting.

F. LED Informational Sign Update

Don Herbert discussed the proposed signage law changes for UM township and how these changes may affect the proposed UM Township Informational sign. The MCAB will be making a presentation to the Board of Supervisors at the March 6th workshop. The MCAB unanimously agreed that the proposed signs should be located in front of the township building and the messaging on the sign should change every 15 seconds. It was also unanimously agreed to recommend the purchase of the 24 sq. ft. signs and these signs should be operational 24 hours

per day. The MCAB recommends that the residents of the neighborhoods which are near the township building be contacted about the proposed LED signs through a letter or other form of communication. Don Herbert will speak with Dave Kraynik regarding contacting these residents.

G. UMGATV Production

Don Herbert reported to the board that a video on charging electric cars is in production. There are electric car charging stations located at the township building. Don also reported that they are working on producing a video on volunteering as a First Responder for UM Township.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20p.m.