Ms. Del Corso called the September 18, 2018 meeting of the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) Executive Committee to order at 12:17pm in the COG Building meeting room.

**Members present:** Mses. Del Corso and Stilson; and Messrs. Abrams, Harden, Miller, and Myers.

**Others present:** Messrs. Koroma, CRPR Intern; May, CRPA Director; Schneider, CRCA Director; Steff, COG Executive Director; Viglione, COG Finance Director; and; Mses. Merrell, CRPR Recreation Services Manager; Salokangas, CRPR Director; and Stamm, Recording Secretary.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Ms. Salokangas introduced Mr. Koroma, the CRPR fall intern. She added that he is working on his project proposal and shadowing her at meetings.

**MINUTES**

A motion was made by Mr. Myers and seconded by Ms. Stilson that the minutes of the August 21, 2018 Executive Committee meeting be approved as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

**MUNICIPAL COMMENTS ON THE 2019 COG PROGRAM PLAN AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

Mr. Steff stated that this would be an informational item for the General Forum. He added that the municipal comments with the COG staff responses would be distributed and that there would not be a presentation but any questions would be welcome.

Mr. Steff explained that there are two changes that was reported to the Finance Committee. He stated that one is the concern about the Code Agency fund balance which a lower multiplier for building permits will be proposed and the second is that after consulting it seems as if the roof at the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center barn is in worst shape than expected so a plan for repairing will need to be worked on and presented.

The committee further discussed the Code Agency fund balance and that may be able to be used to support other growing needs.

A motion was made by Ms. Stilson and seconded by Mr. Myers that the municipal comment matrix on the 2019 Summary Budget and Capital Improvement Plan be forwarded to the General Forum for informational purposes. The motion was unanimously approved.
FUNDING FOR ACT 235 TRAINING FOR TACTICAL PARAMEDICS

Ms. Del Corso stated that the funding is for training, not the endorsement of firearms. She explained that the Public Safety recommended a presentation for the General Forum to explain the firearms training for the paramedics who support the Centre County Tactical Response Team. Mr. Steff added Bellefonte Borough and Spring Township was asked to monetarily support this training and that the Pennsylvania State University contributed $1,000. He also stated that part of the funds requested is to support wage replacement costs while those paramedics attend the week long training.

The committee expressed their opinions and questions relating to the matter and decided that an informational item should be scheduled for the September General Forum meeting and the decision on funding the training to occur at the October General Forum meeting to give members ample time to discuss and evaluate the option.

WHITEHALL ROAD REGIONAL PARK EASEMENT

Mr. Steff informed the committee that the COG and Ferguson Township are joint owners of the Whilehall Road Regional Park property so both need to sign a Grant of Easement to allow the installation of a pump station at the park. He added that the Regional Growth Boundary was extended to include the park and that Ferguson Township has already approved and signed the Grant of Easement. Mr. Steff stated that this agenda item will ask the General Forum members to approve the Executive Director to sign the easement.

Mr. Miller stated that this may require a unit vote because it is regarding land owned by the COG and that Halfmoon Township should be included because it is a land issue, not a park issue. Mr. Steff stated that Halfmoon Township does not participate in ownership of the property so they would not vote on this matter. He added that the General Forum agenda can be set up for a unit vote on the matter.

A motion was made by Mr. Myers and seconded by Mr. Abrams that General Forum receive a copy of the easement calling for a unit vote to authorize the COG Executive Director to execute the Grant of Easement. The motion was unanimously approved.

AGREEMENT WITH CENTRE COUNTY – ACTIVE ADULT CENTER

Mr. Steff explained that the current agreement for the Active Adult Center is between the Centre Region Parks and Recreation Authority (CRPRA) and Centre County from 1984. He added that COG staff has been working with the county on updating the agreement for a three year contract. Mr. Steff stated that the COG solicitor is reviewing the agreement and the questions of who the agreement should be between has arose.

The committee discussed if the agreement should be between the CRPRA and Centre County or the COG and Centre County or between all three parties. It was also discussed if the Articles of Agreement will be reviewed during the Comprehensive Plan. The committee decided that if the solicitor’s review is not complete that this agenda item should wait until the October General Forum meeting.
STRATEGIC PLANNING

Ms. Del Corso acknowledged that this committee discussed COG’s long-term planning efforts at its August meeting. She questioned if there is a timeframe suggestion to enter discussions regarding the overall organization and community’s population and growth.

The committee further discussed this new concept and ways to plan to include the General Forum and Agency Directors. It was discussed how items can be made present in a five year plan rather than a one year plan and how the plans of each agency can be brought together. The suggestion was made for forms to collect this information and then it was questioned if the Executive Committee would be responsible to review and evaluate the forms and determine how a longer term vision can be incorporated and that information could be forwarded to municipal managers.

Mr. Steff suggested that at the beginning of the year it could start with priorities for that year. He added that possibly in 2020 a consultant could be brought in to facilitate in the process.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Mr. Steff updated the committee on the status of the accounting software after the current host had been hacked and unable to restore COG’s information, the Millbrook Marsh Nature Center lease with Penn State, and the Human Resources Committee’s efforts to finalize a Guideline for Meeting Conduct.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Del Corso asked if there were any questions on the Matter of Records in the agenda and reviewed the agenda items to be forwarded to the General Forum.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business for the committee the September 18, 2018 meeting of the COG Executive Committee was adjourned at 1:31pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Stamm
Recording Secretary