Structural Change Impact Group
Consolidation, Regionalization & Outsourcing Working Group

Minutes
February 11, 2022
Meeting conducted via Zoom

Members present: Brian Antonellis, Aaron Pikcilingis, Paul Rickter, Mark Paolillo
Members absent:
Other attendees:

Meeting was called to order at 8:08am.

Minutes
The minutes of the February 4, 2022 meeting were approved. Moved: Antonellis, Seconded: Pikcilingis, Voted: 4-0

Discussion on Outstanding Reports
The working group discussed various ideas and the status of these ideas. All items are identified by their ID numbers and are included in the committee idea matrix posted at https://www.dropbox.com/sh/b64yoe9y05lnwzb/AAB5iDttndB5Pfik6Wzo5Qgva?dl=0.

- Paolillo will meet with Treasurer Floyd Carman and Director of Community Development Glenn Clancy to go over some remaining issues in his remaining writeups.
- ID 250 (Revisit solid waste disposal contract) - Pikcilingis will send the current version of the writeup to Rickter for review.
- ID 16 (Outsource non-value added services), ID 353 (Eliminate all departments that are not absolutely needed), and ID 330 (Regionalize police and fire) - Pikcilingis will finish some remaining research on these and complete the writeups.
- ID 344 (Improve efficiency of capital projects) - Rickter is writing this up and working group members suggested edits. Pikcilingis suggested that we should include a recommendation that we continue practices that appear to be working.
- ID 41 (Cost of independent boards) - Rickter has written some draft language for this idea, but it appears to overlap with ID 281 (Pension Plan changes), which Anne Helgen is writing up. Rickter will consult with Helgen and decide whether to fold this under her idea or keep this idea distinct.
- ID 36 (Sell town-owned parcels) and ID 107 (Review re-zoning opportunities) - Antonellis is writing up these ideas. The working group discussed the idea of creating a master plan for Belmont. Antonellis noted the challenges that commercial developers encounter trying to build in Belmont, because the process of getting feedback from residents on potential developments makes it difficult to complete a project. Brian noted that Dedham did very good work to involve business in developing their master plan.

Identifying Key Themes

The working group discussed how we would go about identifying key themes.

- Pikcilingis stated that one key theme is that we should put processes in place that do things better.
- Antonellis said we should include implementation details in our presentation of themes.
- Paolillo noted that we need to figure out how to set priorities and stick to them, even when a handful of people object. Pikcilingis: we need to figure out how to create mandates that we can stick to.
- Paolillo: an idea going forward is to keep gathering ideas after the SCIG disbands.
- Pikcilingis: Identify priority ideas and describe how to implement them.
- Rickter: We need a roadmap at the start of the report that puts the ideas into groups -- show the ones we've ruled out, the ones that we can make progress on, etc.
- Rickter: Create an implementation team that will follow up with staff to make sure the ideas get implemented and report to the Select Board on progress. Pikcilingis: is this a job for VIC?
- Pikcilingis: Having an implementation team would provide the push to groups that might get independent groups to make progress on things that have been identified as priorities.
- Rickter: Use the executive summary to organize the work of the implementation team.
- Pikcilingis: Executive summary should outline specific steps for how to make progress on these ideas.
- Paolillo: Organize things so there are clear instructions to make it easy to go forward.
- Paolillo: On themes, it's important to evaluate everything programmatically.

Next Steps

- Rickter will write up some ideas about how an implementation team would function.
- Working group members will think about common themes for the executive summary.

Next meeting: February 18 at 8:00am.

Adjourned at 9:26am (Moved: Rickter, Seconded: Paolillo, Voted 4-0)

Minutes recorded by Paul Rickter