

**Structural Change Impact Group
Consolidation, Regionalization & Outsourcing Working Group**

Minutes
August 27, 2021
Meeting conducted via Zoom

**RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: October 12, 2021
TIME: 9:17 AM

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

Members absent:

Other attendees:

Meeting was called to order at 8:01am.

Review of Matrix

We reviewed progress on various ideas on the matrix. 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>.

- Establish a working group of town administrators/managers with comparable communities (ID 108) - Paolillo will arrange a meeting with the Arlington Town Manager to discuss sharing of information among town administrators/managers, regionalization ideas, and central procurement.
- Outsource non-value added services (ID 16) - Paolillo and Pikcilingis will meet to refine progress on this topic and explore what further discussions might be needed.
- Sell town-owned parcels for residential development or define a public purpose (ID 36) - Antonellis will plan to walk through town buildings with the Facilities Director.
- Determine whether there are additional group purchasing opportunities (ID 2) - Rickter will set up a meeting with Library Director Peter Struzziero to discuss this topic as well as library regionalization ideas. Antonellis will join this meeting to learn more about library building issues.

New Ideas

We reviewed new ideas that have been added to our list in the past month.

- Can we consolidate our polling locations? (ID 360) - Paolillo will get information on this idea from Town Clerk Ellen Cushman.
- The town could sell advertising on billboards or e-billboards along Route 2 if allowed (ID 366) - Belmont doesn't own the land along Route 2 for signage. But we should review our policy on naming rights. Paolillo will do a preliminary review of this idea.
- Cancel the middle school portion of the school building project (ID 381) - Pikcilingis will research how to respond to this idea.
- Combine the HR departments (ID 390) - This is a duplicate of HR merging (Schools and Town) (ID 113).

- The town should invest in attracting more mid/large size businesses (ID 394) - This is a duplicate of Review re-zoning opportunities to increase revenue-generating properties (ID 107).
- Reduce costs by using rental equipment or sharing equipment with other towns and other ideas (ID 404) - This is a duplicate of several ideas, including Determine whether there are additional group purchasing opportunities (ID 2) and Review re-zoning opportunities to increase revenue-generating properties (ID 107).
- The town should work with a developer to take the property of private country clubs by eminent domain (ID 406) - This idea appears to be financially impractical. Antonellis will summarize the data needed to evaluate this.
- Library needs to be rebuilt (ID 410) - Needs some evaluation of rebuilding vs. building new. Rickter will run this down.
- Enabling hotels and bed & breakfasts in Belmont (ID 391) - Needs a review of Belmont bylaws as well as neighboring towns to see what language they have in their bylaws. Antonellis will research this.

Scoring of Ideas

We reviewed ideas that we have been working on and gave them preliminary scores.

Future meeting schedule

September 4 at 8:00am.

Adjourned at 9:16am (Moved: Paolillo, Seconded: Rickter, Voted 3-0 with Antonellis absent)

Minutes recorded by Paul Rickter