

Dover Borough/Dover Township  
Joint Comprehensive Plan  
Emergency Services Group Meeting

January 21, 2019

Representatives of the following Emergency Services organizations attended a meeting on the Joint Comprehensive Plan: Dover Ambulance (Peggy Anderson, Mike Husson, Jeff Raffensberger and Lewis Wallace); Dover Township Volunteer Fire Department (Glenn Jansen and Phil Blazosky); Dover Union Fire and Hose (Troy Dettinger and Tom Strine); and Dover Township EMA (Anne Zarlenga); Also present were consultant Tim Staub, HRG, Cindy Snyder and Linford Bledsoe representing Dover Borough and Chuck Richards and Laurel Oswalt representing Dover Township.

Welcomes and Introductions were provided by Laurel Oswalt/Chuck Richards and Cindy Snyder/Linford Bledsoe. Ms. Oswalt informed that group that this was a joint plan between the Borough and Township for the next 10 years of growth and to establish priorities for the communities. Ms. Oswalt stated that their organizations are excited about the process and hearing what other organizations and groups, as well as the community as whole would like to see. Several breakout sessions are being held with Athletics, Non-Profits, Emergency Services, Businesses and HOA's, before public meetings are held.

Tim Staub discussed what a Comprehensive Plan is and how it has changed over the years. Municipalities conduct Comprehensive Plans approximately every ten years. In the past these documents have been large and filled with facts and demographics. They were often used to determine growth areas and changes in Zoning regulations. Today's versions are being labeled as Implementable. The goal of these plans is to focus on projects, partnerships, funding, etc. so that true progress is made in seeing the vision developed into tangible projects.

Those present were asked to provide what they thought were *Strengths* of their organizations. The list was as follows:

1. Dover Union Fire and Hose:

People-7 officers, 18 Firefighters, 9 Fire Police and the Ladies Auxiliary  
Leadership  
Longevity of officers

2. Dover Area Ambulance Club:

People: Dependable/reliable who care for the public  
Experienced Manager/Director  
Up to Date Equipment  
Full-time Paid 24/7 staff (7 full-time, 12 part-time)  
Benefits are good

Ability to Mentor

3. Dover Township Volunteer Fire Department:

Volunteer Live-In Program (10+ years)

Good Equipment

Leadership

Cooperation of Township through Tax Base and Ordinances

4. Dover Township Emergency Management Agency:

5 out of 12 active volunteers

The next part of the discussion focused on Opportunities that the organizations could work on to improve services and work together.

1. Dover Area Ambulance Club:

Territories (Expansion)

Compensation Expanded

Expansion of Building/Staff, etc.

Public Understanding of Funding

2. Dover Township Emergency Management Agency:

Talk to people about Preparedness

Locations for Warming/Cooling Stations and meals for the public (churches, etc.)

3. Dover Township Volunteer Fire Department:

Better Relations

Increase manpower

Regional Fire Department

Facility Improvements

4. Dover Union Fire and Hose:

Purchases (cooperatively)

Funding (Secondary Auxiliary)

Fire Tax

Relationships

Discussion continued with Weaknesses of the organizations. The list developed was as follows:

1. Dover Township Volunteer Fire Department:

- Turnover
- Facility upgrades
- Funding
- Communication

2. Dover Area Ambulance Club:

- Funding
- Missing Second Due Call
- Lack of Cash back from Providers/Citizen Education
- Subscription too low
- Lack of Experienced candidates for new positions
- Facility

3. Dover Union Fire and Hose:

- Funding
- Borough lack of understanding of cost to run the Fire Department

4. Dover Township Emergency Management Agency:

- Facility
- Missing Officers in Mass Care and Fire

The group then discussed ways that they could work better together to tackle some of these issues. Suggestions included: development of an educational and volunteer packet; open dialogue, regionalization, and finding ways to involve the younger generation, including working with the Dover Area School District (Guidance Department/Community Service/CTE Program).





Next the group was asked to describe the Dover Community in one or two words as it exists to them. The list included: Great Community, Personable, Pride, Hometown, Area, Multiple Use Areas, Great Place to Live, Growing, Rural, Historic, Active, Changing, Bedroom Community, Room to Grow, and Teaming Up.

Mr. Staub asked the group to develop a list of Weaknesses of Dover and rank them by priority, willingness to spend money on improving them and willingness to donate time to improvement.

! -Most crucial

\$ -Financial Aid

 -Volunteer Time

1. Mindset (Open)    

2. Regionalization-EMA/Fire Department- Township/Borough !!!!!!!!!!! \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 👤  
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3. More Volunteers !!!! \$
4. Attractive Business (Steak House, Fast Food, Shops) !!!\$\$\$\$
5. Increase Taxes \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$
6. Better Planning \$ 👤    👤    👤    👤    👤    👤    👤    👤    👤
7. Maintaining History !!!
8. Progressive Ordinances !!! 👤    👤    👤    👤
9. Working Together For the Heart of Community !!!!!!!!!!!
10. Standardization. \$ 👤    👤
11. Appearance of Streets/Homes ! \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ 👤    👤    👤    👤    👤
12. Reduce Crime.

The final part of the discussion asked the group to consider any spaces in the community to be *Sacred or Untouchable*. The list developed consisted of the Farmland, Brookside Park, Ketterman Park (Blacksmith Shop), Jail and Historic Structures.

In closing the group was encouraged to review what was discussed with their Boards and provide a copy of a flyer about the upcoming meetings on the Comprehensive Plan to their contacts within the organization to ensure that ample community engagement is realized.