



STATE OF DELAWARE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday March 15, 2017

Members Present: Senator David B. McBride, Chair, Representative Peter C. Schwartzkopf, Vice Chair; Senators, Margaret Rose Henry, Nicole Poore, F. Gary Simpson, Gregory F. Lavelle, and Representatives Valerie J. Longhurst, John Viola, Daniel Short and Deborah Hudson

In attendance: Lori Christiansen, Director, Division of Research/Legislative Council; Mark Cutrona, Deputy Director, Division of Research/Legislative Council; Rochelle Yerkes and Natalie White, Division of Research/Legislative Council; Michael Morton, Controller General; Janet Roberson, Director of Legislative Information Systems; Bernard Brady, Secretary of the Senate; Valerie McCartan, Senate Majority Chief of Staff; David Burris, Senate Minority Chief of Staff; Richard Puffer, Chief Clerk of the House; Sean Finnigan, House Majority Chief of Staff; Lauren C.W. Vella, Senior Legislative Aide; William Bush, House Majority Attorney; David Deputy, House Minority Chief of Staff; Lt. Britt Davis and Sgt. Pete Malinky, Capitol Police; James Collins, Chief Information Officer, DTI and Jason Clark, Chief of Policy and Communications, DTI ; John Flaherty, Delaware Coalition for Open Government and James Black, Partnership for Sustainability of Delaware

AGENDA

1. Welcome – Sen. McBride, Chair
2. Approval of January 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes
3. Director, Division of Research (DOR)/ Legislative Council - Report
4. Controller General - Report
5. Director, Legislative Information System - Report
6. New Business - none
7. Old Business
 - a. Audio Feed to the Press Room – Janet Roberson, LIS
 - b. World War I Monument Dedication Ceremony Update – Lori Christiansen, DOR
 - c. Legislative Mall Traffic Study Update – Lori Christiansen, DOR
8. Other Business
9. Next Meeting – Wednesday May 17, 2017
10. Public Comments
11. Adjournment

1. **Welcome** – Sen. McBride called the meeting of Legislative Council to order at 12:00 p.m. in the Joint Finance Hearing Room.
2. **Approval of January 18, 2017 Meeting Minutes - A motion was made by Representative Hudson and seconded by Sen. Henry to approve the minutes from the January 18, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.** Vote: 9 Yes - Senators McBride, Henry, Poore, and Simpson; Representatives Schwartzkopf, Longhurst, Viola, Short and Hudson. Absent – Sen. Lavelle
3. **Director of Legislative Council Report –**

Lori Christiansen introduced Natalie White, the new Administrative Specialist assigned to the Division of Research/Legislative Council. Ms. Christiansen updated Legislative Council on the progress of the Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government (COOP/COG) planning committee. The COOP subcommittee met with Sandy Alexander, the Disaster Recovery Coordinator from DTI, twice since the last Legislative Council meeting to review and approve the Business Impact Analysis Survey. This information will be loaded into a software system that will create a Living Disaster Recovery Plan. The Committee will review the proposed plan and work on an implementation plan. Once approved by the Committee, the completed plan will be presented to Legislative Council for review and final approval.

Ms. Christiansen reported the plaque for the POW/MIA monument has been installed and directed the members to the pictures provided in their binders. She also reported the Division of Research offered the College of Knowledge again this year during the JFC break. The classes were well attended and we continue to receive positive feedback from the participants.

Rep. Schwartzkopf asked for a motion to go into Executive Session at 12:10 p.m. Sen. McBride made the motion which was seconded by Rep. Longhurst. Motion carried - voice vote. Rep. Schwartzkopf made a motion for everyone to leave the room with the exception of the Chiefs of Staff, the Chief Clerk of the House, the Secretary of the Senate, the Director of DTI and his special assistant. Motion carried – voice vote. Rep. Schwartzkopf made a motion to return to public session. Motion carried – voice vote. Executive Session was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

4. Controller General's Report - Michael Morton reported the Joint Finance Committee will be meeting Monday April 24 through Thursday April 27 to review Gov. Carney's revised budget proposal.

5. Director, Legislative Information System - no report

6. New Business - none

7. Old Business

- a. Audio Feed to the Press Room – Janet Roberson, Director of LIS, reported that she informed the members of the press about the costs associated with installation of audio feeds in the press room and inquired about their willingness to pay for the installation. She has not received any feedback from them.
- b. World War I Monument Dedication Ceremony Update – Lori Christiansen, DOR reported that after some members of the committee questioned the time and date of the dedication ceremony, the WWI planning committee met to discuss options. The committee decided to hold the event on Saturday, November 11 which is appropriately **Armistice Day**, the day the armistice was signed between the Allies of World War I and Germany. The ceremony will be held at noon following the City of Dover’s Veterans Day parade.
- c. Legislative Mall Traffic Study Update – According to Lori Christiansen, DELDOT conducted a review of the Legislative Hall area and will provide these upgrades to improve safety in the area. Signage will be updated to meet current standards and improve wrong way driving aspects. According to DELDOT, statutory parking restrictions per Delaware Code are routinely ignored and enforcement could help improve safety. This information was passed on to Lt. Britt Davis and Sgt. Pete Malinky. DELDOT already had plans for a Pavement and Rehabilitation project scheduled to begin after July 1st. The scope of the project is to mill and pave Martin Luther King Blvd from US 13 to Legislative Ave. As a result of this work they are also required to upgrade all sidewalk handicap ramps to current ADA standards. The project is expected to take about two month to complete. All work will be done at night. The project includes north and south MLK Blvd. and the full horseshoe around Legislative Hall. There is no work being done on Legislative Avenue. DELDOT will restore all pavement markings as they existed prior to the resurfacing. DELDOT will focus this spring on re-striping the areas that are not going to be covered under the Pavement and Rehabilitation project. Lt. Britt Davis and Ms. Christiansen met with a representative from DELDOT to discuss the installation of traffic calming devices to be located around Legislative Hall. If Legislative Council agrees to the purchase of the devices it is recommended that one will be at the gore of MLK Jr east of Leg Hall., and one will be just west of the crosswalk south of Leg Hall, near the first parking space. The cost of the device for the basic device is \$6,413. DELDOT would do the installation. Sen. McBride stated he would discuss with the Secretary of Transportation if DELDOT could pay for the devices. No action was taken.

7. **Other Business** – none
8. **Next Meeting** – May 17, 2017
9. **Public Comment** – none
10. **Adjournment** – Senator McBride adjourned the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Christiansen
Director
Division of Research/Legislative Council