

DAUPHIN COUNTY GAMING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Dauphin County Administration Building, 4th Floor
Thursday, August 28, 2008
8:30 a.m.

Members Present

George Groves, Chairman
Justin Warren, Vice Chairman
David Craig, Secretary
Lloyd Umberger
Jim Szymborski

Also present were Mark Stewart, Wolf Block; Michael Musser, Community Networking Resources; and Amy Richards, Dauphin County.

Call to Order

Mr. Groves called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made to accept the minutes as amended, and subject to the edits of the solicitor, from the July 24, 2008 meeting.

Motion: Mr. Szymborski

Second: Mr. Craig

Motion passed 5-0.

Summary & Projection of Financial Performance at Hollywood Casino

Mr. Stewart distributed a summary and projection of financial performance at Hollywood Casino at Penn National Racecourse, which he will bring regularly to the committee meetings. Mr. Stewart reviewed the summary with the committee members and noted the following: state tax (34%), LSA (4%), and EDTF (5%). Secondly, Mr. Stewart reviewed Hollywood Casino's financial performance as of August 2008 in regard to Dauphin County's projected share. Based on less than 11 months of operations, the projected total Dauphin County Direct Local Share is \$3,301,748.83. Based on East Hanover Township's 2003-04 budget, the total Direct Local Share for the township is \$919,256.06. The amount is adjusted for the Department of Revenue inflation calculation and pro-rated for partial year of operations at 88.52%. The Dauphin County Industrial Development Authority (DCIDA) grant pool is projected at \$1,650,874.41. The Gaming Advisory Committee (GAC) can expect \$2,534,211.30, although, depending on the financial performance of the casino, the numbers will fluctuate.

Mr. Musser explained the four-year MOU agreement between Dauphin County and East Hanover Township. The MOU Priority Funding Ceiling is \$3 million to the township. According to Mr. Musser, the DCIDA may handle the \$3 million for East Hanover. He further suggested that East Hanover Township has about \$12 million in infrastructure needs.

Regarding the grant process, the application deadline applies to both grant pools from the DCIDA and the GAC. Projects will be prioritized and reviewed from September through November. The applicants will present their projects at hearings with the GAC. Grants will be awarded no later than March 1, 2009.

Review of Discussions with Municipalities

Mr. Musser and Mr. Stewart met with several municipal and community representatives at their request to answer questions regarding the application process. Mr. Musser noted that the discussions were positive.

Report from the Dauphin County Industrial Development Authority

Mr. Musser indicated that the DCIDA didn't meet in August; therefore, the members haven't discussed the criteria. The DCIDA and GAC plan to use similar criteria to score projects.

Review of Discussions with the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners

Mr. Musser explained that the Dauphin County Commissioners were interested in giving priority to infrastructure projects that leverage outside investments. Applications with additional funding sources and "ready-to-go" projects may receive priority.

Comments Regarding Final Criteria and Scoring Matrix for Grant Applicants

The DCIDA and the GAC plan to adhere to similar criteria. Mr. Musser suggested that the DCIDA should also have the opportunity to examine the criteria.

For the community or nonprofit organizations that submitted applications, the funding would go to the municipality that sponsored the application. The committee will consider the degree of municipal support to be a factor in the final criteria.

Committee members discussed comments relating to the final criteria. The criteria incorporated aspects of the county comprehensive plan, Keystone principles and the Hometown Streets program. A new criterion for leveraging investments will be included. Applicants are encouraged to have a timeline and budget for projects.

The final criteria will be available on the county web site upon approval from the GAC.

Mr. Musser indicated that the final criteria will be voted on at the next meeting on September 11, 2008. Any additional comments should be submitted to him as soon as possible.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.