



Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments

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Regional Planning Committee

LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Monday, October 26, 2020 – 7:00 pm

Virtual Zoom Meeting

Members:

Chester	Mike Sanders *
	Cindy Lignar *
Clinton	Alan Kravitz *
	Martin Jaffe
Cromwell	Nick Demetriades *
	Anthony LaCava
Deep River	Bruce Edgerton *
	Tony Bolduc *
Durham	Frank DeFelice *
	Joe Pasquale
East Haddam	Crary Brownell
	Lou Salicrup
East Hampton	Michael Kowalczyk *
Essex	Sandra Childress *
Haddam	Raul deBrigard
	Maurice Adams *
Killingworth	Alec Martin
	Stephanie Warren
Lyme	Mary Stone *
	Humphrey Tyler
Middlefield	Vacancy
Middletown	Beth Emery *
	Kellin Atherton *
Old Lyme	Harold Thompson
Old Saybrook	Thomas Cox
	Karen Jo Marcolini
Portland	Mary Dickerson *
Westbrook	Bill Neale *
	Marie Farrell

*Members Present

Staff Present:

Sam Gold

Torrance Downes

Megan Jouflas

Margot Burns

RiverRPC

Eliza LoPresti

Guests: Richard Parmalee

1. Call to Order

Chairman DeFelice called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

2. Roll Call

3. Seating of Alternates

Sandra Childress (Essex) and Maurice Adams (Haddam) were seated

4. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Kravitz moved to adopt the agenda; second by Mr. Sanders. Vote was unanimous in favor.

5. Public Comments – None

6. Approval of Minutes of Past Meetings

Ms. Emery moved to approve the September 21, 2020 meeting minutes; second by Mr. Neale. Vote was unanimous in favor. Mr. Kowalczyk abstained.

At this time new alternate member Maurice Adams of Haddam and new regular member Mary Dickerson of Portland were introduced.

7. Referrals – None

8. Regional Plan of Conservation & Development

a. Existing Conditions Report

The draft report will be emailed to members the day after the meeting along with a memo on how to include comments and changes in track changes and what the goal of this round of editing is. Members may work together to provide one set of changes if they choose. The comments are due back by Nov. 30.

FHI scope and timeline were discussed. RiverCOG staff has written the draft of the existing conditions report bu FHI will still do the layout and fix maps and charts. The plan as a whole should be complete by March 2021. RiverCOG and FHI will come up with milestone dates to further the timeline. Next steps include thematic meetings to deep-dive into particular topics. RiverCOG will come up with a menu of options that may include demographics, the future land use map, economic development, environmental conservation, etc. This list will be informed by comments on the existing conditions report and also by common themes from the meetings with each municipality.

b. Affordable Housing Update

After the last meeting, staff incorporated some action items into the presentation that was given which was distributed to members. A presentation was also given at Middletown's request at the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce on Affordable Housing.

RiverRPC

Some of the actions included in the presentation may be discussed as part of RiverCOG's 2021 legislative agenda. Other ideas for the legislative agenda were brought up at this time such as shared staffing and digitizing of certain town hall functions on a state or regional level and providing educational opportunities for planning and other professions needed at municipal levels.

9. Miscellaneous: State, Regional and/or Local Planning Issues

Mr. DeFelice reported that Durham lost their ZEO and are searching for another.

Ms. Stone noted that Lyme is forming a committee to look at zoning issues around Air b&b type properties. Portland is doing the same. The RPC is interested to hear what becomes of this issue in the future.

10. Adjournment

Mr. Neale moved to adjourn at 7:59 pm; Ms. Emery seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Eliza LoPresti