



Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments

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Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments Regional Housing Committee

MINUTES OF REGIONAL HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, August 26, 2025 – 2:00 PM

Members & Alternates Present: Pat Bandzes (Chester), Daniel Smith (Deep River), Andrea Webster (East Haddam), Juliet Hodge (East Hampton), Carey Duques (Essex), David Lahm (Lyme), Jim Irish (Middlefield), Marek Kozikowski (Middletown), Kathy Seglund (Old Saybrook), Dan Bourret (Portland), Eric Salmon (Westbrook)

Others Present: Zoe Chatfield (Tyche, various towns), Janice Atkeson (Essex), Bill Neale (Westbrook), Karla Lindquist (HOPE Partnership), Kara Capone (Mercy Housing), Rebecca Augur (CT OPM), Pheobe Ploof (LISC), Caitlin Palmer (CRCOG)

RiverCOG Staff Present: Eliza LoPresti, Megan Joufflas, Susie Beckman, Sam Gold, Kevin Armstrong, Ella Rogerson, James Tomb

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2025 Meeting

Juliet Hodge moved to approve the minutes of the 6/24/25 meeting. Second by David Lahm. Vote was unanimous in favor.

Shared Foundations Housing Education Grant

Website Map: This, along with the new website, were displayed for members. The map can be found here: [Web Map.vsdX](#) and the website can be viewed here: <https://rivercog.wixsite.com/rivercog/housing>

Lesson Plan 1 Summary & Focus Group: Megan ran through what has been written for lesson plan 1 and asked if anyone would be interested in forming a focus group so that we can administer the lesson and get feedback. Volunteers included Daniel Smith, Pat Bandzes, Karla Lindquist or other HOPE representative, Carey Duques, and Caitlin Palmer. Date TBD.

Videos: The short form videos that were created by summer interns Ella & James were presented.

Other

Pat asked that the next lesson in the Shared Foundations program be about public engagement. The vetoed bill HB5002 was discussed, but there is no movement on this.

Adjournment

RiverCOG

Juliet Hodge made a motion to adjourn at 3:14 pm. Eric Salmon seconded; vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Eliza LoPresti