

**2014 Plan of Conservation and Development Subcommittee
Special Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2014**

The 2014 Plan of Conservation and Development Subcommittee of the Planning and Zoning Commission held a Special Meeting on July 14, 2014 7:00PM at the Stonington Town Hall Meeting Room, 152 Elm Street, Stonington.

Attending were members Bob Birmingham, Wendy Bury, Walter Grant, Sara Lathrop, Bill Lyman and Bob Mohr. Planning and Zoning Commission members Curtis Lynch and John Prue and Town Planner, Keith A. Brynes, were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lathrop at 7:00PM.

Minutes:

Mr. Lyman motioned to approve the minutes of the 6/16/14 meeting; seconded by Ms. Bury. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Bury motioned to approve the minutes of the 6/30/14 meeting as corrected; seconded by Mr. Birmingham. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business:

Discussion of Comments Received on the 5/16/14 Draft Plan.

The Subcommittee discussed the process for reviewing comments received on the draft plan. Members were previously sent all written comments on the draft plan from various groups and individuals. Ms. Bury will transcribe notes taken by Glenn Chalder during the 6/30/14 Public Informational Meeting. The main question in reviewing comments is whether they should result in policies/tasks or plan text being added/deleted or modified. Mr. Brynes will distribute a list of groups and/or individuals who provided comments on the draft plan.

The Commission began discussion with verbal comments received during the 6/30/14 Public Informational Meeting.

Barbara Dixon comments: The Subcommittee agreed to add the term Cultural Landscapes to the plan text in Chapter 7 and/or Chapter 1. A sidebar definition could help explain the term.

Ward Smith comments: The Subcommittee agreed to add a new task in Chapter 4 to "Consider adoption of a local food policy and food council" with the Agricultural Commission as the leader.

Stuart Schwartzstein comments: The Subcommittee agreed to change the term "underutilized" on page 16 to "residential property with excess acreage" or a similar term.

Marsha Standish comments: The Subcommittee agreed to add more of an explanation of the PA-490 program in Chapter 6. A new task to "Explore the use of PA-490 for open space" will be added to Chapter 6 with the Board of Selectmen as leader and Conservation Commission, Board of Finance and Department of Planning as partners. The Subcommittee agreed to remove PA-490 farm/forest land from the Open Space map and show these properties in a separate map. The new PA-490 map will not use the term "open space" to describe these properties. Mobile homes in high density areas with

infrastructure will be added to the plan text on page 68. Various maps, figures and tables will better reflect the area of town land, such as roads, that are not reflected in the assessor's database.

Chris Freeman comments: The Subcommittee agreed to add a task in Chapter 3 to "Support and encourage public and private pump out facilities." The Subcommittee agreed to add a task to Chapter 5 to "Explore a pumping station for recreational vehicles."

Gary Anderson comments: The Subcommittee agreed to add a task in Chapter 13 to "Develop sidewalks between downtown Pawcatuck and the high school and downtown Mystic and the Big Y supermarket."

Steven Bessette comments: Comments were addressed in existing text.

Rufus Allyn comments: The Subcommittee agreed to add the term "community gardens" to page 42 and to policy 4.3.1. The Subcommittee agreed to add a new task to Chapter 3 to "Create a Coastal Sea Level Rise Task Force."

Rick Newton comments: The Subcommittee agreed to add a task in Chapter 6 to "Establish a Municipal Land Use Authority under CT General Statutes Section 7-131p" with the Board of Selectmen as leader. Plan text will describe Municipal Land Use Authorities. On page 68, last paragraph, text will be revised to state that some of the affordable housing developments listed are not 100% affordable but still meet the minimum state standards for the number of affordable units required.

The Subcommittee began discussing written comments received on the draft plan.

Curtis Lynch comments: The Subcommittee agreed to add a task to Chapter 10 to "Provide an annual report with analysis and summary to identify additional economic drivers for the Town such as high-value manufacturing and retirement/senior care" with EDC as the leader and the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Planning and Zoning Commission as partners.

Ms. Lathrop discussed the recent appointments to the existing POCD Implementation Committee by the Board of Selectmen. The Implementation Committee has not met in several years. The concern is that repopulating this committee is at odds with recommendations in the new plan to reform the Implementation Committee with members from various boards and commissions responsible for implementation. Mr. Lyman suggested that the new POCD could state that adoption of the new plan ends the old Implementation Committee. The old Implementation Committee could be absorbed into the new one. Ms. Lathrop will discuss the issue with the First Selectman.

Ms. Lathrop discussed the meeting schedule. The regular meeting scheduled for Monday July 21 will be canceled in favor of a Special Meeting on Monday July 28. The goal is to complete a revised draft for Subcommittee review by the beginning of September. A GIS consultant can be used to update maps if necessary. The contract with Planimetrics included an additional meeting with Glenn Chalder. Consensus was that this meeting could take place after the revised draft is completed. Carlene Donnarumo discussed her recommended edits to the plan which she will review with Mr. Brynes.

Ms. Bury motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Birmingham. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Keith A. Brynes, Town Planner