

Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee
Special Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2020

The Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee held a Special Meeting on Monday, February 24, 2020 at Stonington Town Hall, 152 Elm Street, Stonington.

Attending were Chairman, Danielle Chesebrough and members, Bill Lyman, Ben Philbrick, David Hammond, Lynn Young, Fran Hoffman, Keith A. Brynes, Town Planner. Members, Curtis Lynch, Stuart Schwartzstein, John Truscinski and Barbara McKrell, Director of Public Works, were absent.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chesebrough at 5:02PM.

Minutes:

Mr. Philbrick motioned to approve the minutes of the 1/27/20 meeting; seconded by Mr. Hammond. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion of First Selectman's Priorities:

Ms. Chesebrough discussed her initial implementation priorities going forward including:

1. Dealing with sea level rise (Hoffman).
2. Revitalization of downtown Pawcatuck (Hammond)
3. Sustainability initiatives (Hoffman)
4. Complete streets resolution (Schwartzstein)
5. Low impact development (Schwartzstein)
6. Update zoning regulations (Philbrick)
7. Attract employers to town (Hammond)

Dealing with Sea Level Rise:

Ms. Hoffman summarized recent Climate Change Task Force meetings. The Committee discussed whether the Selectmen should delegate a specific task to that group. The Committee discussed the current Capital Improvement Program request to set aside funds annually for climate change adaptation. Ms. Young stated that the Board of Finance would likely call for more additional details on how money would be spent and who would determine the Town's spending priorities. The Board of Finance has spent considerable money on coastal resilience measures such as various drainage and sewer projects. Mr. Hammond recommended consulting with the larger companies and organizations in the region regarding planning and implementation measures they are undertaking.

Revitalization of Downtown Pawcatuck:

Mr. Hammond discussed the Economic Development Commission's recent progress on the revitalization of downtown Pawcatuck. Several Capital Improvement Requests are pending including funds for Phase 1 of the Pawcatuck Riverwalk and acquisition of the "circus lot." Additional public meetings are being planned for specific topics. EDC's recent work, including its Community Conversations, could be consolidated into a planning document for downtown Pawcatuck.

The Committee decided to hold a Special Meeting on Monday March 23, 2020, 5:00PM at Stonington Town Hall. Focus of the meeting will be on Sustainability Initiatives and Complete Streets. A Regular Meeting is also scheduled for April 20, 2020.

Mr. Lyman motioned to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Philbrick. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith A. Brynes, Town Planner