

Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
April 3, 2017

The Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee held a regular meeting on Monday, April 3, 2017, at Stonington Town Hall, 152 Elm Street, Stonington.

Attending were members, David Hammond, Bill Lyman, Curtis Lynch, Shaun Mastroianni, Stuart Schwartzstein, Ward Smith, Barbara McKrell – Director of Public Works and Keith A. Brynes – Town Planner. Also in attendance was Director of Planning, Jason Vincent. Chairman, Rob Simmons and members, Ben Baldwin, Bryan Bentz and Michael Schefers were absent.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Lyman at 6:01PM.

Minutes:

Mr. Lynch motioned to approve the minutes of the 2/6/17 meeting with 1 correction; seconded by Mr. Hammond. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion of New POCD Idea Assessment (Ideas Introduced at Last Meeting)

Mr. Vincent distributed Project Initiation forms for various ideas mentioned at previous meetings. The Commission discussed the procedure for adding, modifying or deleting tasks to the POCD. Mr. Lyman stated that the Project Initiation form should be completed by the liaison or member proposing the idea and include more information including proposed task leader and draft wording and placement in the POCD. Proposed tasks should be discussed and favorably received by the task leader. Mr. Lynch stated that an Action Plan could include more detail on how the task could be implemented. Mr. Vincent described how the process could work:

Step 1 – Project Initiation (Statement of Interest).

- a. Project Initiation (Idea)
- b. Assessment/organization of idea (How does it fit into the plan?)
- c. POCD IC evaluation/assignment (assign liaison, look for task leader)

Step 2 – Action Plan/Next Steps (details spelled out in draft Implementation Committee Guidelines)

Mr. Lyman stated that the Committee should have specific information on a proposed task prior to voting. Committee members agreed with the discussed process. Mr. Vincent will amend the Project Initiation form with additional information regarding the process. No votes on new tasks were taken.

Mr. Schwartzstein arrived at 6:30PM.

Discussion of Plan Implementation to Date Including Progress Report

Mr. Lyman summarized progress on Coastal Resiliency tasks. The Town's Coastal Resiliency Plan is ongoing and a public input session will be held on May 4th.

Ms. McKrell and Mr. Vincent departed at 6:45PM

Mr. Smith discussed progress regarding agriculture. A Farm Forum was held with local farmers in February which resulted in suggested action items from farmers.

Mr. Lyman summarized Natural Resources and Open Space tasks. The Conservation Commission is in need of members and has not met in several months. The Town should investigate whether there are environmental organizations that might volunteer to perform a Natural Resources Inventory.

Mr. Schwartzstein summarized progress regarding Housing tasks. Many of these tasks fall under the Comprehensive Zoning Rewrite. Mr. Brynes stated that several approved proposed changes to the Zoning Regulations help implement the POCD's housing tasks. Mr. Lynch stated that the Comprehensive Zoning Rewrite should have an action plan with a timeline for completion.

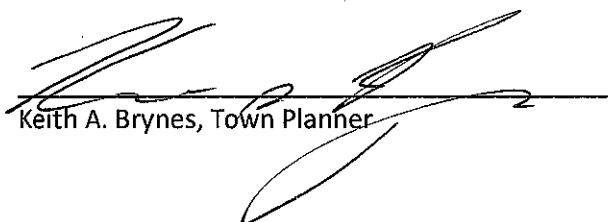
Mr. Hammond described progress regarding Business Development. The Planning and Zoning Commission submitted a Zoning Regulation and Map Amendment for a new Heritage Mill District and a public hearing will be held on 4/18/17. Mr. Hammond described the input session held for the proposed PV-5 Zone for Downtown Pawcatuck. Mr. Lynch requested an action plan with a timeline for the completion of Task 10.4.2 to create a comprehensive economic development plan for the Town. This task was reclassified as a high priority by EDC. Mr. Lyman recommended that once progress is made on a task it should remain in the Progress Report to note whether any other progress has been made.

Mr. Schwartzstein discussed progress regarding Community Facilities and Transportation. Mr. Schwartzstein sent a letter to the First Selectman recommending reconstituting the Permanent Committee to Study the Needs and Uses of Town Buildings. Many qualified residents are interested in forming a Bicycle Task Force as recommended in the plan. Mr. Schwartzstein summarized a meeting held with North Main Street residents which mainly focused on two issues, returning the road's historical name of North Road and increasing pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Christopher Freeman, President of CUSH (Clean Up Sound and Harbors), spoke regarding the goal of reforming the Town's Stormwater Management Committee and the Town's work in satisfying the State's "MS-4" requirements regarding stormwater quality.

The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday June 5th, 6:00pm at Stonington Town Hall. Mr. Hammond motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Mastroianni. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Keith A. Brynes, Town Planner