

CONNECTICUT RIVER GATEWAY COMMISSION

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

October 24, 2019

Present/Absent: [Excused absence (E); Unexcused absence (U)]

Chester:	Margaret (Peggy) Wilson, Jenny Kitsen
Deep River:	<i>Nancy Fischbach(E), Conal Sampson</i>
East Haddam:	<i>Crary Brownell (E), Joel Ide</i>
<i>Essex:</i>	Claire Mathews, Mary Ann Pleva (E)
<i>Fenwick:</i>	<i>Newton Brainerd, Borough Warden</i>
<i>Haddam:</i>	Susan Bement, Mike Farina
Lyme:	J. Melvin Woody, Wendy Hill
Old Lyme:	Peter Cable (last meeting), Suzanne Thompson
Old Saybrook:	Bill Webb, Tom Gezo
<i>Regional Rep:</i>	Raul Debrigard
DEEP:	David Blatt
Staff:	J H Torrance Downes
Guests:	Kelsey Wentling, CRC River Steward

Introduction

Thompson took the opportunity to introduce CT River Conservancy River Steward Kelsey Wentley. Wentling briefly described her background.

Call to Order

Chair **Thompson** called the regular meeting of the Connecticut River Gateway Commission to order at RiverCOG offices located at 145 Dennison Road, Essex at 7:03pm.

Affirmation of Article III, Section B(1)(a) of Commission Rules of Procedure

As required by the bylaws of the Gateway Commission, and upon a motion by **Mathews**, seconded by **Bement**, the Commission affirmed the use of fund spending policy of the Commission. The motion passed unanimously. Following the vote, **Mathews** opened a discussion regarding the language of Article III, B(1)(a) of the Rules of Procedure, opining that the language was perhaps "limited" with respect to use of the funds for projects other than land acquisition and operations, such as research and ecological projects (subaquatic plant survey and phragmites eradication project, for instance). By consensus, it was decided that **Mathews** will develop revised language and present it to the Governance Committee for consideration and recommendation to the entire Commission.

Annual Update of Conflict of Interest Statements

Downes pointed out that a copy of the Commission's Conflict of Interest policy and the COI form was placed at each member seat for completion and submission for the Gateway files. Most members filled out the form and returned it at the end of the regular meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 7:13pm by **Bement**, seconded by **Woody**, approved unanimously.