LOWER CONNECTICUT RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
Monday, October 26, 2020 – 7:00 pm
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Members:
Chester        Mike Sanders *
              Cindy Lignar *
Clinton       Alan Kravitz *
              Martin Jaffe
Cromwell      Nick Demetriades *
              Anthony LaCava
Deep River    Bruce Edgerton *
              Tony Bolduc *
Durham        Frank DeFelice *
              Joe Pasquale
East Haddam   Crary Brownell
              Lou Salicrup
East Hampton  Michael Kowalczyk *
Essex         Sandra Childress *
Haddam        Raul deBrigard
              Maurice Adams *
Killingworth  Alec Martin
              Stephanie Warren
Lyme          Mary Stone *
              Humphrey Tyler
Middlefield   Vacancy
Middletown    Beth Emery *
              Kellin Atherton *
Old Lyme      Harold Thompson
Old Saybrook  Thomas Cox
              Karen Jo Marcolini
Portland      Mary Dickerson *
Westbrook     Bill Neale *
              Marie Farrell

*Members Present

Staff Present:
Sam Gold
Torrance Downes
Megan Jouflas
Margot Burns
Eliza LoPresti
Guests: Richard Parmalee

1. Call to Order
Chairman DeFelice called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

2. Roll Call

3. Seating of Alternates
Sandra Childress (Essex) and Maurice Adams (Haddam) were seated

4. Adoption of Agenda
Mr. Kravitz moved to adopt the agenda; second by Mr. Sanders. Vote was unanimous in favor.

5. Public Comments – None

6. Approval of Minutes of Past Meetings
Ms. Emery moved to approve the September 21, 2020 meeting minutes; second by Mr. Neale. Vote was unanimous in favor. Mr. Kowalczyk abstained.

At this time new alternate member Maurice Adams of Haddam and new regular member Mary Dickerson of Portland were introduced.

7. Referrals – None

8. Regional Plan of Conservation & Development
   a. Existing Conditions Report
      The draft report will be emailed to members the day after the meeting along with a memo on how to include comments and changes in track changes and what the goal of this round of editing is. Members may work together to provide one set of changes if they choose. The comments are due back by Nov. 30.

      FHI scope and timeline were discussed. RiverCOG staff has written the draft of the existing conditions report but FHI will still do the layout and fix maps and charts. The plan as a whole should be complete by March 2021. RiverCOG and FHI will come up with milestone dates to further the timeline. Next steps include thematic meetings to deep-dive into particular topics. RiverCOG will come up with a menu of options that may include demographics, the future land use map, economic development, environmental conservation, etc. This list will be informed by comments on the existing conditions report and also by common themes from the meetings with each municipality.

   b. Affordable Housing Update
      After the last meeting, staff incorporated some action items into the presentation that was given which was distributed to members. A presentation was also given at Middletown’s request at the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce on Affordable Housing.
Some of the actions included in the presentation may be discussed as part of RiverCOG’s 2021 legislative agenda. Other ideas for the legislative agenda were brought up at this time such as shared staffing and digitizing of certain town hall functions on a state or regional level and providing educational opportunities for planning and other professions needed at municipal levels.

9. **Miscellaneous: State, Regional and/or Local Planning Issues**
   Mr. DeFelice reported that Durham lost their ZEO and are searching for another.

   Ms. Stone noted that Lyme is forming a committee to look at zoning issues around Air b&b type properties. Portland is doing the same. The RPC is interested to hear what becomes of this issue in the future.

10. **Adjournment**
    *Mr. Neale moved to adjourn at 7:59 pm; Ms. Emery seconded. Vote was unanimous in favor.*

Respectfully submitted,
Eliza LoPresti