

Gregg Schuster



First Selectman

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2011 JAN 21 PM 1:02

**Colchester Commission Chairmen Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 20, 2010
Colchester Town Hall – 6:30PM
Meeting Room 1**

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Gregg Schuster, Selectman James Ford, Selectman Stan Soby, and Selectman Rosemary Coyle.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectman Greg Cordova

OTHERS PRESENT: Derrik Kennedy, Ron Goldstein, Bruce Hayn, Rob Tarlov, Joseph Mathieu, Brendan Healy, Richard LeMay, Stephen Cohn, Thomas St. Louis, and Robert Parlee

1. Call to Order

First Selectman G. Schuster called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. Commission Updates – Commission Chairs

Chair Ron Goldstein reported that the Board of Education is working on developing the budget, initiating the Strategic Planning process (which is done every five years), the high school was very successful in the Lego Robotics Competition winning several gold medals, and the middle school satisfied all AYP requirements.

Chair Bruce Hayn reported that the Board of Finance has a draft budget schedule for meetings and forums, the budget questionnaire is available online and in various town departments for the public to offer their opinions, and the Capital Improvement Plan is being developed.

First Selectman G. Schuster read a report regarding the Commission on Aging from Chair Jean Stawicki.

Chair Stephen Cohn reported that the Economic Development Commission has no new business to report since the last Chairmen meeting and they are currently filling vacant seats on the commission.

First Selectman G. Schuster read a report regarding the Ethics Commission from Chair Genea Bell

First Selectman G. Schuster read a report regarding the Open Space Advisory Committee from Chair Nick Norton

Chair Joseph Mathieu reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission has a full commission, the staff is working on revising the Zoning Regulations and is starting the process of updating the Plan of Conservation and Development, they are being proactive to develop parcels in the business district to attract development, there has been a gravel

pit permitted, a pet rehabilitation facility approved, and an application for development of the gas station on South Main Street.

Chair Robert Parlee reported that the Police Commission has a full commission after various appointments, the police department is transitioning with the change-over of the Resident State Trooper Supervisor and Resident Trooper, two recruits are proceeding well and should come on the force in early February, the by-laws are being revised, they are working on strategic goals and revising the departmental Rules & Regulations, and are initiating a five-year equipment plan.

Chair Brendan Healy reported that the Police Retirement Board has instituted minor changes to the pension plan to align with IRS code changes, assets are growing, and they are starting to discuss changes to the plan itself in the future.

Chair Richard LeMay reported that the Sewer & Water Commission prepared the operating budget and it will go to public hearing on February 9 with a 0% rate increase, STEAP grant preliminaries have been completed, the DOT property transfer is moving along on Lake Hayward Rd., the Streamflow Regulations were rejected and have until February 1 to re-submit, and the Well 3 redevelopment is complete.

Chair Thomas St. Louis reported that the Youth Services Advisory Board is thankful that the Board of Selectmen found money to assist Youth & Social Services with added personnel, the youth groups are doing very well in Middle School and High School, a male mentoring program has been developed for the Elementary School, the juvenile review board will begin to be active again, and they are still raising money for an additional Youth Services van.

First Selectman G. Schuster read a report regarding the Zoning Board of Appeals from Chair Laurie Robinson.

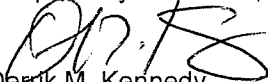
No reports received from:

Chair Dave Anderson on the Board of Assessment Appeals
Merja Lehetinen on the Cable Advisory Committee
Chair Falk Von Plachecki on the Conservation Commission
Chair Jack Faski on the Fair Rent Commission
Chair Ellen Sharon on the Historic District Commission
Chair Jan LaBella on the Housing Authority
Chair Sean O'Leary on the Parks & Recreation Commission

3. Adjourn

R. Coyle moved to adjourn the Commission Chair Meeting at 7:08 p.m., seconded by J. Ford. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,



Derrick M. Kennedy

Executive Assistant to the First Selectman

Attachments:

- Report on the Commission on Aging from Chair Jean Stawicki
- Report on the Ethics Commission from Chair Genea Bell
- Report on the Open Space Advisory Committee from Chair Nick Norton
- Report on the Zoning Board of Appeals from Chair Laurie Robinson

39 Caverly Mill Road
Colchester, CT 06415
January 20, 2011

Mr. Greg Schuster
First Selectman
And Board of Selectmen
Town of Colchester
127 Norwich Avenue
Colchester, CT 06415

Re: Commission on Aging Quarterly Report

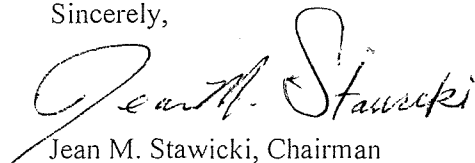
Dear Board of Select men,

Toward the end of improving the condition of seniors in the Colchester community, Rose Levine, an alternate on the Commission on Aging, spear-headed a presentation which was given in November 2010, entitled, "KEEPING SENIORS AT HOME". The program was presented by the Commission on Aging and was supported by the Senior Center. It was directed to caregivers in the Colchester community and involved a number of presenters who specialize in support for caregivers for seniors. This program was the first that the Commission on Aging has presented and was relatively well attended for being the first one. The Commission would like to present two or three such programs a year.

The Commission has also formed a sub-committee to review both its by-laws and its enabling ordinance/code to bring them up to date.

The Commission currently has two vacancies in its full membership and a vacancy in one of its alternate positions. The remaining alternate, Rose Levine, has requested to be made a full member. The Commission on Aging has voted to recommend that Rose Levine be made a full member. Rose Levine is over 65 years of age.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jean M. Stawicki". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Jean M. Stawicki, Chairman
Commission on Aging

**COMMISSION CHAIR MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2011**

Dear First Selectman Schuster:

The Ethics Commission continues to meet as needed. Our commission is full. There have been no complaints or requests for advisory opinions in the past three months.

Genea Bell
Chair, Colchester Ethics Commission

Report to Selectman on Open Space Committee issues:
Nick Norton , Chair,
January 20, 2011

The Committee is working to update the Open Space Plan. This task includes revising the base map to include open space parcels and conservation easements obtained/designated since 2005. Committee has also developed a ranking system for open space dedications similar to what is used to evaluate open space purchases by the town.

Committee has begun evaluation of a proposal to utilize several acres of open space lands on the White Oak property for use as a solar collector area. The developer of the property has proposed to construct numerous solar collection panels that would provide power to the Bacon Academy. As the solar panels would be located on town owned property that is reserved for open space, the committee is weighing the benefits of maintaining the property as opposed to the benefits provided by clean energy. The committee will complete its evaluation in February.

Committee is working with staff and the Bacon Academy to develop an action plan for development of the white oak farm open space. This follows up on the work completed in 2008 for trails and other features.

Gregg Schuster

From: H & L Robinson [robinson@snet.net]
Sent: Friday, January 14, 2011 11:30 PM
To: Gregg Schuster; Derrik Kennedy
Cc: Laurie Robinson; Patrick Reading; Stan Soby
Subject: ZBA Report Out for 1/20/11 Commission Chair Meeting

Hello Derrik,

I'll be recovering from surgery on 1/19/11, so I will not be able to attend the Thursday 1/20/11 Commission Chair Meeting. I appreciate you sharing the report-out below with the Board of Selectman so that it can be read at the meeting.

Thank you,
Laurie Robinson

To: Gregg Schuster, First Selectman
From: Laurie Robinson, Chairman, Zoning Board of Appeals
Date: 1/14/2011

Subject: ZBA Quarterly Report

Hello Gregg,

Please accept this report-out for the Zoning Board of Appeal's recent news, for use at the Thursday, 1/20/11 Commission Chair Meeting:

- The ZBA met in November to elect the 2011 Chairman (Laurie Robinson) and Co-Chairman (Patrick Reading).
- Due to lack of applications, the ZBA cancelled the December 2010 and January 2011 regular meetings.
- The ZBA now has no alternates, and this puts us at risk to ensure a full voting board of 5 in 2011. We appreciate any support the Board of Selectmen can offer to recruit and appoint qualified Alternate members for the ZBA..

Thank you,

Laurie R. Robinson
Chairman, Zoning Board of Appeals