

# Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Gregg Schuster, First Selectman

**Colchester Commission Chairmen Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 5, 2011**  
**Colchester Town Hall – 7:00PM**  
**Meeting Room 1**

RECEIVED  
COLCHESTER, CT  
2011 MAY - 6 AM 10:09  
*Gregg Schuster*

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Robert Tarlov, Robert Parlee, James Paggioli, Ron Goldstein, Jean Stawicki, Adam Turner, Jay Gigliotti, Laurie Robinson, Katy Nally, Ryan Blessing, and other citizens.

**1. Call to Order**

First Selectman G. Schuster called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**2. Commission Updates – Commission Chairs**

Chair Ron Goldstein reported that the Board of Education is anticipating the budget referendum, which is taking place next Tuesday; high school graduation is scheduled for June 20 and the middle school ceremony is June 18; math night and literacy night (where students recap what they learned through the year) are occurring this week; the Bacon Academy wrestling team won the State Championship; three Bacon senior have been selected for the National Merit Scholarship (based on PSAT scores); and two Bacon students have been chosen for the statewide poetry competition (out of four total selectees).

Robert Tarlov reported that the Board of Finance is also anticipating the budget referendum next week after months of deliberation, discussion, and hard choices.

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

First Selectman G. Schuster read a report regarding the Economic Development Commission from Chair Stephen Cohn.

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

First Selectman G. Schuster read a report regarding the Planning and Zoning Commission from Chair Joseph Mathieu.

Chair Robert Parlee reported that the Police Commission is still working on police strategic goals, rules and regulations, the five-year equipment plan, officers are looking to replace their uniforms with a new design, officers are attending their bi-annual recertification classes, four police officers are getting their mountain bike certification, Officers Goss and Shield have completed their FTO requirements, they are exploring options for new police cruisers, and they are continuing to work toward an 11<sup>th</sup> officer and fulfilling the town's goal of staffing a third shift.

Chair Laurie Robinson reported that the Zoning Board of Appeals has not received any appeals since the January Commission Chair meeting, and the Board is concerned about the vacancies in the two alternate positions on the Board.

**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.  
Chair Brendan Healy on the Police Retirement Board  
Chair Richard LeMay on the Sewer & Water Commission  
Chair Thomas St. Louis on the Youth Services Advisory Board

**3. Adjourn**

G. Cordova moved to adjourn the Commission Chair Meeting at 7:15 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 Economic Development Commission from Chair Steve Cohn
- Report on the Ethics Commission from Chair Genea Bell
- Report on the Open Space Advisory Committee from Chair Nick Norton
- Report on the Planning & Zoning Commission from Chair Joe Mathieu

39 Caverly Mill Road  
Colchester, CT 06415  
May 5, 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,

The Commission on Aging is still working on evaluating its By-Laws. Rose Levine has put together another presentation entitled, "Caring for a Loved One with Alzheimer's Disease or Any Other Dementia", which had an original presentation date of March 23, 2011, but which was cancelled on account of weather. The new date is dependent on finding a mutually agreeable date when several of the very busy speakers can be brought together. Rose has been working hard on putting these presentations together and they have been very well received by the Colchester community.

The Colchester Senior Center Study Group has returned its report which the Commission on Aging will be evaluating at its up-coming meeting(s).

The Commission on Aging is short three members and is having trouble getting its work done:

Sincerely,

  
Jean M. Stawicki, Chairman  
Commission on Aging

## COMMISSION CHAIR MEETING

MAY 5, 2011

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

The commission is pleased to welcome Candice Barnes, Colchester's Economic Development Coordinator, to the Colchester operation and we look forward to working with her. Candice has been involved with the commission since starting her role. EDC's focus over the coming months will be to work with Candice on strategy, identify areas the EDC can be of assistance and brainstorm on economic development. The EDC commission will be submitting to the First Selectman's office a C-TIP recommendation recently brought to the committee by Candice. This is the first C-TIP application for 2011. EDC has a vacancy and is always interested in speaking to potential volunteers.

Respectively,  
Steve Cohn  
Chairman

## COMMISSION CHAIR MEETING

MAY 5, 2011

### ETHICS COMMISSION

The Ethics Commission continues to have a quiet year. There have been no complaints and no requests for advisory opinions received this year. There has been one resignation from the commission, which had previously been full. In addition, another commissioner's term expired in January and he has not yet applied for reappointment. I do not know whether he intends to reapply. Thus, we have two vacancies to fill. Fortunately, our commission has had very little business to conduct in the recent past. However, if and when a matter arises, the process we must undertake is best served when there are five voices at the table instead of three. Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Board of Selectman consider our Board when making appointments in the future. I am always happy to answer questions for interested candidates.

Thank you,

**Genea Bell**  
**Chair, Colchester Ethics Commission**

## COMMISSION CHAIR MEETING

MAY 5, 2011

### OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. We are developing a matrix of open space benefits which can be used to prioritize decisions for acquisition of open space parcels.
2. We have updated the Town's open space map.
3. We have reviewed the proposed zoning concepts for rural areas.
4. We continue to examine current open space issues and offer recommendations to the Conservation Commission, when appropriate.

Nick Norton, Chairman

COMMISSION CHAIR MEETING

MAY 5, 2011

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

Dear Board of Selectmen,

Please accept this update on the activities of the Planning and Zoning Commission. As reported in previous meetings, the Commission is in the process of reviewing all zoning regulations with the goal of adopting revisions by year end. Staff has been making good progress in the drafting process and to date the Commission has reviewed and provided feedback on general process regulations as well as conceptual zoning district regulations for rural, suburban and village district zones. We will be reviewing additional zoning district concepts and development requirements (parking, lighting, signage) over the next few months. Our time table is to have the Commission review the full drafts over the summer months and then hold public review sessions in the fall. We will also be soliciting input from other Boards and Commissions at this juncture. After incorporating this feedback, we would proceed to public hearing and adoption in November / December.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Regards

Joseph Mathieu  
Chairman