



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Commission Chairmen Regular Meeting Minutes Thursday, October 20, 2016, 7PM Colchester Town Hall - Meeting Room 1

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Art Shilosky, Selectman Stan Soby, Selectman Denise Mizla, and Selectman John Jones

MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectman Rosemary Coyle

1. Call to Order

First Selectman A. Shilosky called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Commission Updates – Commission Chairs

Chris Bourque reported on the **Agriculture Commission** – Commercial hops brewery looking for property in Colchester. Need to look at regulations that would allow them to do this in town. Livestock in the suburban zone is being looked at for options in regulations that will allow this activity in appropriate sections. Farm to school initiative continues.

Rick Konan reported on the **Board of Assessment Appeals** – Heard 50 appeals. Two regarding auto/trailers. Gearing up for the fall evaluations.

Don Kennedy reported on the **Board of Education** – Theme this year is “Innovation Nation”. Bacon has eight Norwich students at this time. Building project is on schedule. Public meeting scheduled for input on CES renaming plans.

Merja Lehtinen reported on the **Cable Advisory** – Serving on the Comcast investigation team to see if billing was inappropriate. There was overbilling and non-corrections being made. ATT is back in town to compete with Verizon. When the cable advisory advocates for residents they usually win.

Faulk Von Plachecki reported on the **Conservation Commission** – report attached

Jim Ford reported on the **Economic Development Commission** – Organized committees to be more effective on several items. CTIP application under consideration. Meeting with neighboring EDC chairs to organize and develop a municipal development program. Sign replacement program still in process, funding may have been found. Web and FB committee working diligently. Looking at food processing for region.

Dan Henderson reported on the **Ethics Commission** – Reviewed 2015-16 procedure policy on how to function in case of an ethics complaint which would require a hearing. Identified courses of action to make the committee more effective. Discussion between D Henderson and the Board regarding Charter requirements and committee responsibility in regards to processing a complaint. Two claims filed in the last year.

Ellen Sharon reported on the **Historic District Commission** – application approved for construction of the replica of the colored school house. This is being built at no cost to the town by the Liverant Family.

Jay Gigliotti reported on the Open Space Advisory Committee – report attached

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Eric Kundahl reported on the **Parks & Recreation Commission** – Completed recommendation report on the Field Sustainability subcommittee. 57 Event was a success.

Stan Soby reported on the **Zoning Board of Appeals** – Approved application for vehicle repair shop. Per State Statute this had to come through the ZBA for approval.

WRITTEN REPORTS RECEIVED FROM THE FOLLOWING (attached):

Faulk Von Plachecki regarding **Conservation Commission**
Jay Gigliotti regarding **Open Space Advisory Commission**
Joseph Mathieu regarding **Planning & Zoning**

3. Adjourn

J Jones moved to adjourn the Commission Chair Meeting at 7:30 p.m., seconded by D Mizla. Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Attachments (3)

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Dean
Clerk

Chairman's Report-10/20/16

Colchester Conservation Commission

Activity since last Chairman's Meeting 7/21/16

- Six (6) Wetland Agent Approvals for work within the URA
- Three (3) Commission Issued Permits, including the renovation/addition to WJJIS
- Resolved all remaining Enforcements

Chairman's Report-10/20/16

Colchester Open Space Advisory

Committee

Activity since last Chairman's Meeting 7/21/16

- Committee has had only one (1) meeting since July
- Continued Development of Priority Parcel Acquisition List;
- Review & Assessment of 2006 Open Space Plan;
- Review, Monitor & Strategize Open Space Account Balances.

Tricia Dean

From: Joseph Mathieu <jbmathieu@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2016 7:05 PM
To: Tricia Dean
Cc: jbmathieu@comcast.net
Subject: Commission Chair Meeting

Hi Tricia,

I will be unable to make the meeting tomorrow night so kindly forward the following report to the BoS.

Thank You.

Dear First Selectman Shilosky,

As I will not be able to attend this evening's meeting, please accept the following as my report on behalf of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Application activity has been relatively light over the past few months. As such, the Board is currently focused on some adjustments to our regulations in the following areas:

1. Signage;
2. Shed Setbacks in suburban zones;
3. Horses in non-rural zones.

As you know, we substantially revised our zoning regulations earlier this year. These three items have come up in the context of either application or enforcement activity as areas where the regulations can be improved or clarified.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Mathieu
Chair