PLANNING COMMISSION

Meetings of the Old Saybrook Planning Commission are scheduled for the first and third Wednesdays of each month (except July and August when only one regular monthly meeting is scheduled) at 7:30p.m. at Pasbeshauke Pavilion at Saybrook Point.

This year, the Commission reviewed and approved (most with modifications and/or conditions) applications for one subdivision, two re-subdivisions and four lot-line changes. Coastal site plan reviews were conducted and approved on three applications. An additional subdivision was presented for a preliminary review by the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission is also asked to respond to referrals by the Zoning Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals and Board of Selectmen. This year the Zoning Commission sent two referrals for regulation zone changes; the Planning Commission gave a favorable recommendation for one, and an unfavorable recommendation for the other. The Planning Commission gave favorable recommendations for all five special exception referrals sent by the Zoning Commission. The Zoning Board of Appeals also referred five special exception applications; these resulted in four favorable and one unfavorable recommendations. In response to six referrals for municipal improvements sent by the Board of Selectman, the Planning Commission favorably recommended all six.

Old Saybrook's Plan of Conservation and Development 2000 is the result of four plus years of effort by current and previous Planning Commission members; Christine Nelson, Town Planner; Chris Costa, Assistant Town Planner; Torrance Downs and Linda Krause of Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency, with input from other town boards and commissions, and members of the public. While the writing of the Plan was significant, equally important is the assurance that the program recommendations will be implemented. To this end, a subcommittee of the Commission has presented workshops to town boards, commissions and civic groups. Response to these workshops has been positive and encouraging.

In early Spring, the Board of Selectmen requested the Planning Commission to review the town's road endings and devise a plan for them. The Commission received input from the public, reviewed records, and requested surveys of some of the endings. We continue to work on this project, with the focus on delineating the boundaries of each town-owned ending, and encouraging access for residents and visitors to the beautiful vistas that that our shorefronts afford, while remaining sensitive to the residents of each neighborhood.

Judith S. Gallicchio, Chairman