

**2014 Plan of Conservation and Development Subcommittee
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2013**

The 2014 Plan of Conservation and Development Subcommittee of the Planning and Zoning Commission held its June 3, 2013 Regular Meeting at 7:00PM at the Stonington Police Station Meeting Room – 173 S. Broad St, Pawcatuck. Attending were members Bob Birmingham, Wendy Bury, Bill Lyman and Robert Mohr. Members John Prue, Alisa Morrison, Walter Grant and Sara Lathrop were absent. Town Planner Keith A. Brynes and Glenn Chalder of Planimetrics were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Bury at 7:00PM.

Mr. Birmingham motioned to approve the draft minutes of the 5/13/13 meeting; seconded by Mr. Lyman. The motion was unanimously approved.

Ms. Bury summarized input received during a meeting with representatives from various local service providers including the Directors of the Human Services, Public Works and WPCA and Chief of Police. Input from the COMO was also discussed.

The Subcommittee discussed the “What We Want to Provide” section of the plan which will include chapters on community services, utilities and transportation.

Community Services:

Mr. Chalder discussed the need for chapters to include discussion on inventory, assessment and implementation for each topic. Ms. Bury stated that the K-12 Building Committee may have different opinions than the Board of Education. Planning for the future of the W. Broad St. school was discussed as an important topic if that school is closed. Mr. Chalder will send a questionnaire that can be sent to community service providers to help gather input. The issue of a Town Hall addition seems to not be a priority. The Chair of the Town’s Permanent Buildings Committee could be asked for input on municipal space needs.

Utilities:

Mr. Birmingham suggested getting more information about the capacities of the Town’s 3 treatment plants. The issue of selling capacity in the Pawcatuck plant to North Stonington was discussed as a possible topic for the plan to address. Mr. Lyman suggested the plan investigate whether water and sewer service should expand into other areas of town or be maintained as is. Mr. Chalder recommended making utilities a separate chapter of the plan including discussion on all utilities.

Transportation:

Ms. Bury stated that the Chief of Police recommended that a task force be established to develop a bike plan for the Town. The task force could include representatives from the Police Department, DOT, DPW and bike advocates. The Subcommittee discussed the possibility of additional rail service to Mystic and/or Westerly.

Next Steps:

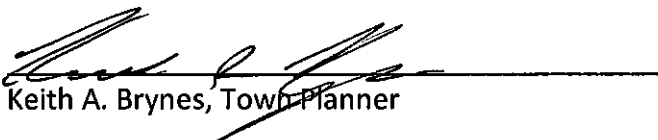
Ms. Bury asked about next steps for the Subcommittee. Mr. Chalder recommended that members begin drafting chapters of the plan – particularly the conservation chapters with which there seems to be the most consensus. Begin with the big picture/vision elements and follow with the specific tasks. Mr. Chalder distributed a 4 page template for plan chapters to include: 1. An overview of the chapter topic and why it is important. 2. An inventory / assessment of the topic. 3. Vision including discussing the rationale for specific recommendations. 4. Map / plan. 5. Recommendations and implementation including goals, objectives, policies and tasks. Developing these templates will help the Subcommittee agree on the big picture for each topic. Mr. Chalder stated that the “Development” sections of the plan seem to be the most challenging and need the most discussion. The “facilities” chapters of the Plan could be lighter to focus on consensus in the development sections.

Ms. Bury recommended reconsidering holding a public input meeting on the Exit 91 issue. Mr. Lyman agreed stating that the Subcommittee has had ample input and knows what people on both sides of the issue would say. Mr. Chalder recommended that the Subcommittee instead look at the big picture of the Town’s economic development objectives and whether they can be met with or without the LI-130 zone. He can develop a set of questions to help guide the commission in its discussion. All members present agreed to not hold a public input meeting on the Exit 91 issue.

The Subcommittee decided to use the next meeting as a general discussion of economic development objectives town wide. Members will begin to complete the 4 page outlines of their chapters using Mr. Chalder’s template and have the templates completed a week in advance of the 8/5 meeting. Consensus was to not have the scheduled 7/1 meeting. Mr. Chalder recommended that members not wait until the last minute to request any GIS maps from staff or Ms. Morrison. Carlene Donnarummo stated that the maps on protected open space needed more work.

Mr. Birmingham motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Lyman. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Keith A. Brynes, Town Planner