

**2014 Plan of Conservation and Development Subcommittee
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2013**

The 2014 Plan of Conservation and Development Subcommittee of the Planning and Zoning Commission held its October 7, 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, Walter Grant, Sara Lathrop, Bill Lyman, Robert Mohr and John Prue. Town Planner Keith A. Brynes was also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lathrop at 7:02PM.

Mr. Lyman motioned to approve the draft minutes of the 9/16/13 meeting as amended; seconded by Mr. Mohr. The motion was approved 5-0. Roll call: Birmingham – approve, Grant – approve, Lathrop – approve, Lyman – approve, Mohr – approve. Mr. Prue arrived at 7:05PM and Ms. Bury arrived at 7:25PM.

Discussion of outline for Chapter 11, Community Facilities and Services:

Ms. Lathrop presented her draft outline of this chapter. Mr. Birmingham stated that a recommendation should be that the Town develop a plan for the W. Broad St. school building and School Administration Office which the Board of Education has discussed both closing. Mr. Birmingham will distribute the K-12 Building Committee's report on the issue of closing W. Broad school. Mr. Lyman recommended that the Plan clearly state that the school closure is the recommendation of the K-12 Building Committee and Board of Education. Mr. Prue departed the meeting at 7:15PM.

Consensus was to separate mention of the Central Administration Office in Policy #D as its own recommendation. Mr. Grant questioned the need for the office to be relocated near to a more central location. The Subcommittee discussed the need for a feasibility analysis to be done by the Town prior to decisions on closing W. Broad Elementary or moving the Central Administration Office. The Town's Permanent Committee on Public Buildings should be more proactive in addressing these issues and should be mentioned in the plan. The Subcommittee discussed the Town's annual Capital Improvement Plan worthy of mention in this chapter. Members can analyze whether maintenance of public infrastructure is adequately funded. Mr. Lyman recommended that the Vision section of the chapter provide less detail some of which could be in the Current Conditions section. This chapter could be organized to discuss facilities and services separately where appropriate.

Discussion of outline for Chapter 14, Transportation and Mobility:

Mr. Lyman recommended that the Overview section discuss what topics the chapter covers. Ms. Bury recommended adding information on the percentage of roads with sidewalks and the amount of sidewalks added over the past 10 years. Challenges related to sidewalks expressed by the Public Works Department were discussed. Mr. Lyman stated that the Current Conditions section should describe issues mentioned in the Vision section such as seasonal traffic. Chapter should include information on the Public Work's Department's recent Comprehensive Plan for the maintenance of roads. Mr. Mohr stated that 2004 Road Classification Map needs to be updated to reflect current Scenic Roads. Ms. Bury suggested more information about the Town's SEAT bus service and recommended reviewing this chapter against the transportation goals of the regional CEDS plan. The Subcommittee discussed whether to include a recommendation regarding implementation of the Mystic Mobility Study's goals.

The Subcommittee made the following recommendations regarding specific policies and tasks under the Recommendations section of the chapter:

Policy #C: Reword to "Promote connections to neighborhoods, villages . . ."

Task #2: Reword to recommend creation of a task force and seek funding for a bicycle plan.

Task #4: Reword to "Develop and implement bicycle and pedestrian paths along Route 1."

Task #6: Eliminate. No apparent coordination issues.

Tasks #7 & 9: Add Westerly/ Pawcatuck Chamber of Commerce as responsible parties.

Mr. Lyman recommended rewording the bulleted items in the Vision Section into text.

Chapters to be covered at the next meeting include Sustainability, Scenic/Historic Resources and Agriculture.

Ms. Bury motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Lyman. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Keith A. Brynes, Town Planner