

**2014 Plan of Conservation and Development Subcommittee
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2013**

The 2014 Plan of Conservation and Development Subcommittee of the Planning and Zoning Commission held its December 2, 2013 Regular Meeting at 7:00PM at the Stonington Police Station Meeting Room – 173 S. Broad St, Pawcatuck. Attending were members Wendy Bury, Walter Grant, Sara Lathrop, Bill Lyman and Robert Mohr. Member Bob Birmingham was absent. Town Planner Keith A. Brynes was also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lathrop at 7:08PM.

Mr. Lyman motioned to approve the minutes of the 11/18/13 meeting; seconded by Ms. Bury. Motion was approved 5-0.

Discussion of outline for Chapter 12, Utilities:

Mr. Lyman presented his draft of the Utilities chapter. Some discussion is redundant of the text in the Natural Resources Chapter. Consensus of the Subcommittee was that discussion of septic system issues should be in the Natural Resources chapter with a reference in the Utilities chapter. Ms. Lathrop mentioned Masons Island's service from CT Water Co and its ice pond used for fire fighting. Chapter should mention that expansions of sewer service over the past 10 years have been at the developers' expense. Mr. Brynes stated that this chapter should reference the discussion of wind and solar power in the Sustainability chapter and should mention planning for sea level rise and its effect on utility infrastructure.

Mr. Lyman stated that after drafts of all chapters are complete, the Subcommittee should review who the responsible parties are for all recommendations. Recommendations should be organized by responsible party and those parties should be asked for input and support of goals during the public input solicitation for the draft plan. This input should not be a separate process. Ms. Bury stressed that Board of Selectmen support is key to town wide implementation. Ms. Lathrop stated that a meeting between the Subcommittee and Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) will be needed to assure that we are moving in the right direction and that PZC supports the plan's general message. PZC would need time to review a draft document after Mr. Chalder's review. Curtis Lynch of the PZC suggested that the Board of Finance be consulted. Ms. Bury stated that they were solicited for input for this plan and no comments were received. They will be invited to react to the draft plan and recommendations. Mr. Lynch recommended that the Subcommittee or a POCD Implementation Committee could review PZC applications for conformance with the POCD. Mr. Brynes stated that interpreting an application's conformance with the POCD is the PZC's responsibility.

Discussion of revised outline for Chapter 5, Natural Resources:

Mr. Lyman suggested that members should start taking photographs of places to include in their chapters, especially places that have changed over the past 10 years. Some language regarding the water companies is duplicated in the Utilities section. Details should largely be included in the Utilities Section. Section on assessment of wetlands should be labeled to

include other natural resources as well. Much of the text in the Vision section can be condensed.

Mr. Lyman summarized a conversation with the chairman of the Conservation Commission regarding revisions to the Open Space Plan. These revisions are expected to be completed by the Conservation Commission and the goal is to have the Open Space Plan adopted as an appendix to the POCD. Members stressed that a draft of the Open Space Plan will have to be prepared soon so the Subcommittee can determine whether the POCD and Open Space Plan are consistent. Mr. Lyman suggested a first draft by February if the 2 plans are to be adopted simultaneously.

Discussion of outline for Chapter 14, Sustainability:

The Subcommittee reviewed Mr. Birmingham's draft of the Sustainability/Resiliency Chapter. Subcommittee members questioned whether this needed to be a stand-alone chapter. Mr. Lyman stated that the general language is helpful but many of the recommendations are redundant or could be accommodated in other chapters. Task #1 offers a helpful test for town decisions. Much of the text could be included in an introductory chapter to the plan that discusses its general philosophy. Ms. Bury suggested sending this chapter along to Planimetrics for their input before making a final decision.

Discussion of consultant review and budgeting

Ms. Bury reviewed a menu of work and pricing options from Planimetrics to help review and/or edit the draft chapters. Members discussed the ideal level of involvement. Consensus was that having Planimetrics help edit the plan would save significant time. A meeting would not be required prior to Planimetrics making changes.

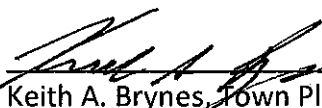
Ms. Bury motioned to hire Planimetrics for \$5,500 (option #5); seconded by Mr. Lyman. The motion was approved 5-0.

The deadline to submit revised chapters to staff is Thursday December 12th. Staff will then send revised chapters and other relevant plans and information including the questionnaire results to Planimetrics. Planimetrics will take 4-6 weeks to prepare its revisions. Staff will add in any maps to chapters. All chapters should read "Revised 12/12/13 in the header."

No meeting will be held on 12/16/13. The Subcommittee's next meeting will be held on Monday, 1/6/14 to begin planning for future meetings and public input.

Ms. Bury motioned to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mr. Lyman. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,


Keith A. Brynes, Town Planner