

MINUTES OF THE 2/21/18 MEETING OF THE
SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
SCCOG OFFICE, NORWICH, CT

PRESENT: Council Representatives: Glenn Pianka, Bozrah; Art Shilosky, Colchester; Mark Nickerson, East Lyme; Charles Grant, Franklin; Todd Babbitt, Griswold; Keith Hedrick, City of Groton; Betsy Petrie, Lebanon; Fred Allyn, Ledyard; Tom Sparkman, Lisbon; Ron McDaniel, Montville; Michael Passero, New London; Bob Congdon, Preston; Kevin Lyden, Salem; Jeff Callahan, Borough of Stonington; Dan Steward, Waterford. Council Alternates: John Salomone, Norwich; Jim Rivers, Windham. Tribal Liaison: Robert Hayward, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation. Military Liaison: Captain Paul Whitescarver, Adam Wright, US Naval SUBASE; RADM James Rendon, LT Tony Gregg, USCGA. Staff: James Butler, Kate Rattan. Other: Congressman Joe Courtney; Alison Woods, Community Foundation of Eastern CT; Grayson Wright, CTDOT; Catherine Young, CT Airport Authority; Mike Carroll, Al Fritzsche, Ginger Morse, SEAT; Patricia Johnson, Amalgamated Transit Union; Nancy Cowser, seCTer; Ayanti Grant, Congressman Courtney's office; Ellen Graham, Senator Blumenthal's office; Emily Boushee, Senator Murphy's office; State Senator Paul Formica; Deborah Monahan, TVCCA; Tom Kasprzak, Eversource; one reporter.

1. Call to Order: The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Roll Call: A quorum was present.
3. Pledge of Allegiance: The Chairman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Act on Minutes 1/17/18:

MOTION: To approve the minutes of 1/17/18 (Sparkman, Shilosky). So voted unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report:

MOTION: To approve the February Treasurer's Report (Congdon, Sparkman). So voted unanimously.

6. Public Comment:

None.

7. Communications:

The Executive Director stated that there was a memo in the agenda packet from SCCOG staff to CTDOT on their draft long-range plan; he stated he had also distributed a letter concerning the status of Town Aid Road (TAR) funding from CTDOT's Tom Maziarz at everyone's place at the table.

8. Guest Speaker:

Alison Woods, Community Foundation of Eastern CT

Ms. Woods presented the findings of the Community Foundation's report The Status of Women and Girls in Eastern Connecticut.

Congressman Joe Courtney

Congress Courtney discussed a number of issues including New York State's appeal of US EPA's decision to continue to allow the disposal of dredged materials in Long Island Sound. He said that Connecticut has filed for intervenor status, and that the SCCOG and SCCOG member municipalities might want to consider filing Amicus Curiae briefs. He touched upon Congress' adoption on February 9th of a two year budget, and also the proposed White House Transportation/Infrastructure plan.

9. Committee and Liaison Reports

A. Executive Committee

1. Resolution No. 18-2, Relating to a Regional Services Grant

The Executive Director explained this item will allow him to execute a contract with OPM to receive this year's Regional Services Grant.

MOTION: To adopt Resolution No. 18-2, Relating to a Regional Services Grant (Congdon, Steward). So voted unanimously.

2. Shared Services Study Implementation

The Executive Director explained that only one SCCOG member had responded to his emailed invitation to join a Shared Services Study Implementation Committee. He said he discussed this with the Executive Committee, and instead developed a menu/schedule of meetings that might take place around different opportunities for sharing of services as identified in the study. He said he placed a memo to the SCCOG at each member's place at the table, and asked that members read this and get back to him with any additional ideas or questions. He said it was his intent to start calling meetings of key chief elected officials and municipal staff to discuss and hopefully initiate the actions needed to implement the study's recommendations.

3. FY 2018 TIP/STIP Amendments

The Chairman stated these would be taken up under New Business.

B. Legislative Committee/Legislative Update

The Executive Director reminded that there was a meeting scheduled tomorrow morning at 7:30 a.m. at the SCCOG office with the region's legislative delegation.

C. Tribal Liaison Representatives – no report.

D. Military Command Representative

Admiral Rendon stated that the cadets were one week away from mid-terms; that billet night would take place in the next couple of weeks; an ethics forum was scheduled to which SCCOG members would be invited; the Academy had broken ground on a \$72 Million utility/energy conservation project; and that the cadets had already this year performed more than 20,000 hours of community service.

Captain Whitescarver reported that the JLUS Implementation Committee would meet next on March 8th.

Mr. Passero stated that the Bond Commission recently approved funding for the removal of docks in Waterford across from the SUBASE, whose removal was recommended in the JLUS.

E. Congressional Office Report – no report.

F. seCTer

Ms. Cowser said that the State has finally sent seCTer its match of federal funds for PTAC; and that the State has not yet released SBEX funds, but that seCTer was still making loans using its won funds.

G. Eastern CT Tourism District – no report.

H. SEAT

Mr. Carroll said SEAT did implement some minor service modifications in New London and Groton; also some minor fee adjustments. He said the SEAT board was anticipating a 15% reduction in State assistance on July 1.

I. Regional Water Committee

Mr. Congdon reported that the Eastern CT WUCC was close to finalizing their plan.

J. Regional Emergency Planning Team

Mr. Sparkman asked how many MOAs for FY 2017 funding were outstanding, and the Executive Director responded 17. Mr. Sparkman, who chairs the REPT, urged those still needing to provide the MOA, to get them in to SCCOG staff.

K. Regional Human Services Coordinating Council

The Executive Director stated that work has begun on the Human Service agency Shared Services Study.

L. SE CT Cultural Coalition – no report.

10. Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director stated that the kickoff of the CRS model/plan would be February 28th at the SCCOG office and that invitations had been sent to SCCOG members and their staff. He said that staff had also sent out invitations to two evening training sessions for SCCOG member Planning and Zoning Commission members in March.

11. Old Business

Mr. Congdon suggested the SCCOG file an Amicus Curiae brief in the New York appeal of EPA's decision concerning the deposit of dredged spoils in Long Island Sound (Rosado v. Pruitt). Discussion took place on how much the SCCOG might spend, who might join the SCCOG, the fact that the brief should be filed by April 2, and how to authorize this expenditure of SCCOG funds.

MOTION: To direct the SCCOG Executive Director to investigate the filing of an Amicus Curiae brief in the matter of Rosado v. Pruitt, to report to the Executive Committee the feasibility and cost of such filing but that the cost not exceed the expenditure of more than \$15,000 in SCCOG funds, and that he reach out to Electric Boat, Valley COG, and possibly other coastal COGs to invite them to join us in this filing (Congdon, Sparkman). So voted unanimously.

12. New Business

A. FY 2018 TIP/STIP Amendment

- TAPNL, 0094-0259, New London, Union Station Facility Rehab, CON, 2019, \$561,000, New Project.
- STPA-BRX, 0163-0196, CT 66, Windham, Remove BR 00488 & Rehab BR 00489 o/RR, CON, 2019, \$2,099,000, Move from FFY 18 to FFY 19, Increase Est. from Fed \$879K, Change in scope and description.
- REP, 0163-0196, CT 66, Windham, Remove BR 00488 & Rehab BR 00489 o/RR, CON, 2019, \$11,901,000, Move from FFY 18 to FFY 19, Change in scope and description.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2018 TIP/STIP Amendment (Sparkman, McDaniel). So voted unanimously.

- B. Resolution 18-3, Supporting Recognition of Regional Councils of Governments as County Equivalents for Connecticut by the U.S. Census Bureau

The Executive Director explained the purpose of this resolution.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 18-3, Supporting Recognition of Regional Councils of Governments as County Equivalents for Connecticut by the U.S. Census Bureau (Sparkman, Congdon). So voted unanimously.

The members present agreed to the Executive Director's request to add the following item to the agenda.

- C. Resolution No. 18-4, Relating to a 2017 Responsible Growth and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Grant

The Executive Director explained that this resolution will allow him to execute a contract with OPM for these grant funds.

MOTION: To approve Resolution No. 18-4, Relating to a 2017 Responsible Growth and Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Grant (Sparkman, McDaniel). So voted unanimously.

13. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for March 21.

14. Adjournment:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m. (Congdon, Shilosky). So voted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Nickerson, Secretary