

**MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 28, 2019 MEETING
OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

Members Present: Adelman (Bozrah); Bittman (Sprague); Calvert (Franklin); Cherry (Ledyard); Giroux (Lisbon); Kunkemoeller (City of Groton); Levine (New London); Malozzi (Lebanon); Stockton-Sabrowski (Preston)

Others Present: Justin LaFountain (SCCOG Staff)

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Giroux called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

A quorum was present. Members introduced themselves.

3. Review Minutes of Previous Meetings:

Commissioner Adelman made a motion to approve the RPC minutes of July 2018. Seconded by Commissioner Malozzi. Approved unanimously.

4. Update Regarding Joint Land Use Study and Development Information by SCCOG Staff

Justin LaFountain, SCCOG Planner II, made mention of the Joint Land Use Study, currently being undertaken by the COG and its consultants. As part of the process, a public meeting about the study was to be held on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 in Groton. LaFountain encouraged members to attend if available.

LaFountain then gave a brief presentation which covered commercial and residential developments throughout the region over the past five years. The information for this presentation was primarily supplied by the municipal planners in the region. After reviewing what development had occurred (or was approved to occur), the commissioners felt that infrastructure (specifically public sewer and water accessibility) was the main challenge to new development occurring. Some of the commissioners noted that municipalities need to look into the expansion of existing wastewater facilities, or the creation of new facilities.

Commissioner Stockton-Sabrowski left at 8:03 p.m.

5. Updates From Commissioners on Current Local Municipal Activities

Each commissioner stated some of the activities which are occurring in their municipality, and some of the actions that are currently being taken by their respective Planning Commissions. Aside from town-specific issues, the issue of zoning for medical marijuana dispensaries in comparison to recreational marijuana dispensaries (if it were to be legalized in Connecticut) was discussed.

Commissioner Levine noted that there is a homelessness problem in New London, which is really a homelessness problem throughout the region. Homeless people from throughout the region typically end up in New London because of the services there. Commissioner Levine pointed out that New London has a zoning regulation which allows for homeless shelters through special permit approval, and he speculated that most other towns do not have such a regulation.

LaFountain briefly mentioned that regional commissioner training sessions would be presented by the COG and Attorney Steve Byrne over the coming months. More information will follow when dates and locations are confirmed.

6. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Justin LaFountain, CZEO

Planner II, SCCOG