

**MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 27, 2020 MEETING  
OF THE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

**Members Present:** Bittman (Sprague); Blanchard (Lisbon); Calvert (Franklin); Caron (Salem); Cherry (Ledyard); Giroux (Lisbon); Kunkemoeller (City of Groton); Levine (New London); Pritchard (Town of Groton); Scanlon (Ledyard); Scott (East Lyme); Seder (Bozrah); Stockton (Preston)

**Others Present:** Justin LaFountain (SCCOG Staff)

1. Call to Order

Chairman Giroux called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was present.

3. Review Minutes of Previous Meetings

Commissioner Levine made a motion to approve the RPC minutes of October 2019. Seconded by Commissioner Cherry. Approved unanimously.

4. Election of Officers

Commissioner Levine nominated Commissioner Giroux for Chairman, seconded by Commissioner Cherry. Commissioner Cherry moved to close nominations. Seconded by Commissioner Kunkemoeller. Both motions approved without objection.

Commissioner Cherry nominated Commissioner Kunkemoeller for Vice-Chairman. Commissioner Giroux seconded. Commissioner Kunkemoeller refused the nomination.

Commissioner Giroux nominated Commissioner Pritchard for Vice-Chairman. Seconded by Cherry. Commissioner Levine moved to close nominations. Seconded by Commissioner Giroux. Both motions approved without objection.

Commissioner Pritchard nominated Commissioner Levine for Secretary. Seconded by Commissioner Caron. Commissioner Giroux moved to close nominations, seconded by Commissioner Cherry. Both motions approved without objection.

The officers of the Regional Planning Commission for 2020 are: Ron Giroux, Chairman; Jeff Pritchard, Vice-Chairman, and Barry Levine, Secretary.

## 5. Updates from Commissioners on Current Local Municipal Activities

Commissioners discussed some of the activities which are occurring in their municipalities, and some of the actions that are currently being taken by their respective Planning Commissions. Several of the topics that were discussed were: updates of Plans of Conservation and Development, Zoning Regulation updates, Short Term Rental Regulations/Ordinances, new Commission members from the previous election, and updates of Commission Bylaws.

## 6. Discussion Regarding Resiliency

LaFountain provided a brief presentation on the resiliency as it pertains to the Southeastern CT region. LaFountain provided copies of the resiliency section within the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development to the commissioners. He mentioned a variety of climate, natural, and manmade risks that municipalities should consider and include in their Plans of Conservation and Development and their Capital Improvements Plans. Commissioner Blanchard noted that Lisbon is planning for microgrid infrastructure to assist in their resiliency.

## 7. Future Meeting Ideas

LaFountain brought up Commissioner training ideas for both PZC Commissioners and ZBA Board Members to gauge an interest level. Several commissioners noted interest in PZC training events and suggested a combined PZC/ZBA training for meeting process education.

LaFountain also noted that the Department of Housing will be contracting with a firm to develop guidelines for municipalities for affordable housing plans. He also noted that a grant will be available shortly for municipalities to retain a consultant to assist in the plans. Commissioner Cherry suggested that a regional effort be made for the plan where individual towns could then fill in their pertinent information. Several other commissioners agreed with that idea.

Chairman Giroux mentioned several potential topics for future meetings, including ethics rules and procedures, Freedom of Information Act rules, and social media as it pertains to commissioners. Chairman Giroux stated if any other commissioners have topic ideas to send them to LaFountain or to himself to be included on future agendas.

8. Adjournment: Commissioner Levine made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Giroux. The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Justin LaFountain, CZEO

Planner II, SCCOG