

MEETING NOTES OF 5/20/20 TELECONFERENCE OF THE
SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

PRESENT: Council Representatives: Mary Bylone, Colchester; Mark Nickerson, East Lyme; Charles Grant, Franklin; Keith Hedrick, City of Groton; Todd Babbitt, Griswold; Kevin Cwikla, Lebanon; Fred Allyn, III, Ledyard; Tom Sparkman, Lisbon; Ron McDaniel, Montville; Michael Passero, New London; Mike Urgo, North Stonington; Sandra Allyn Gauthier, Preston; Cheryl Blanchard, Sprague; Jeff Callahan, Borough of Stonington; Rob Brule, Waterford. Council Alternates: John Burt, Town of Groton; John Salomone, Norwich. Tribal Representative: Rodney Butler, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation. Military Liaison: Captain Todd Moore U.S. Naval SUBASE; LCDR Dan Stepler. Staff: James Butler, Amanda Kennedy, Wendy Leclair. Other: Patrick McCormack, Uncas Health District.

Chairman Nickerson called the teleconference to order at 8:32 a.m.

LCDR Stepler said he was representing Admiral Kelly, who was preparing for today's graduation at the Academy, so he could not be on the call. LCDR Stepler said he had invited all SCCOG CEOs to attend the ceremony virtually today.

Captain Moore stated that the military's opening up will be later than the State's. He said that all active duty personnel are under orders to only participate in essential activities.

Mr. McCormack reported on guidance received from the State last night; stated that Mr. Mansfield from LLHD was not on this call because he was attending to a matter in Pawcatuck where a barbershop had announced they would open today in violation of the Governor's Executive Order; and that the State has established a procedure and email address for complaints about non-compliance with rules for re-opening as businesses start to do so.

Discussion of recent State Guidance, and Executive Order 7PP took place.

Mr. Urgo suggested that in light of some lack of clarity in the recent guidance, that SCCOG towns work together and be consistent in application and enforcement of guidelines.

Mr. Sparkman asked those on the call to discuss what they are doing in terms of date for re-opening town halls and having staff report back to work.

The Executive Director reported on three items: 1) the masks that the Community Foundation made available to SCCOG towns have been ordered; 2) the State's position on how COGs can charge time for COVID-19 response and recovery, which currently is to not allow this time to be charged to DEMHS or to the OPM Regional Service Grant; and 3) next week's call on May 27 will be the regular meeting of the COG.

Discussion on what towns are doing with libraries and curb-side pickup of book took place.

Discussion on what towns are doing on summer camps took place.

The teleconference concluded at 9:10 a.m.

Note: The recording of this teleconference is posted on the SCCOG web site.

Meeting Notes Taken By:

James S. Butler, Executive Director