



SECHA Board of Directors Meeting
March 12, 2021
8:30 AM

Conducted by Zoom Conference

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84802663252>

Alternate via phone: 929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 8480 2663 252 (dial *6 to mute/unmute)

Draft Minutes

Attendees: Norton Wheeler, Pam Days-Luketich, Deb Monahan, John Bolduc, Bob Fusari, Mark Oefinger, Dave Stanland, Fred Allyn III, Susy Hurlbert, Jim Butler, Amanda Kennedy, Carly Holzschuh. Guest speaker Betsy Gara.

1. Call to Order

Mr. Wheeler called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

2. Introductions

Mr. Wheeler led introductions of SECHA members, SCCOG staff, and guest speaker Betsy Gara.

3. Conversation with Betsy Gara, Council on Small Towns (COST)

Ms. Gara presented on several proposed land use bills in the legislature, mostly focusing on increasing affordable housing in Connecticut. Some provisions would include allowing accessory dwelling units by right, allowing “middle housing” (2-4 unit multifamily) by right in TOD zones, expanding the jurisdiction of Housing Authorities to allow voucher holders to live in areas 15 miles outside of the home jurisdiction, and decentralized sewage systems that would allow some low-density developments outside of piped municipal utilities. Overall, COST is concerned about losing home rule authority if reforms are implemented statewide.

4. Update on Local Affordable Housing Plans

Ms. Kennedy presented progress in the towns being served by SCCOG in drafting and presenting municipal Affordable Housing Plans.

5. Update on Legislative Proposals Regarding Housing

There was general discussion about the role of SECHA in advocating for statewide legislation, focusing on the DesegregateCT bill.

6. Update on COVID Response Activities

Mr. Butler and Ms. Kennedy reported that the Long-Term Recovery Working Groups have been meeting and discussing unmet needs in the region.

7. Approve January 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: To approve the January 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes (Monahan, Oefinger). So voted unanimously.

8. Financial Report

Ms. Kennedy reported that SECHA expenditures are down, as most of the SCCOG housing work is currently being covered under the Affordable Housing Plan contracts.

MOTION: To approve the financial report (Fusari, Oefinger). So voted unanimously.

9. New Business

There was no new business.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be May 14, 2021 at 8:30 AM.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 AM.