

MINUTES OF THE 5 APRIL 2022
SCCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
VIA ZOOM

Present: Fred Allyn, III, Danielle Chesebrough, Cheryl Blanchard, Rob Brule, Keith Hedrick, John Salamone

Other SCCOG Members: Glenn Pianka, Charles Grant

Staff: James Butler, Amanda Kennedy, Kate Rattan

Chairman Allyn opened the meeting at 8:31 a.m.

1. Update on Hiring of Regional Zoning Official

The Executive Director reported that John Herring, formerly ZEO in Portland, CT, began working for the SCCOG last week as Zoning Official in Bozrah and Ledyard.

2. Update on Funding for Hiring Regional Recovery Coordinator

The Executive Director briefed Executive Committee that the total of contributing towns is now ten, providing approximately \$55,000 in funding, to support SCCOG's contracting with Lee-Ann Gomes to serve as Regional Recovery Coordinator.

3. Update on Hiring of Planner

The Executive Director said that Norwich native Nicole Haggerty, currently a Planner in Round Rock, Texas, has accepted the SCCOG's offer of employment as Planner II. Ms. Haggerty has a Bachelor degree from Roger Williams University, a Masters in Planning from the University of Texas, and has several years of planning experience. She will start work at the SCCOG on May 9th.

4. Route 32 and Route 161 Corridor Study Updates

The Executive Director informed the Executive Committee that the Route 161 Corridor Study Advisory Committee met last week, and that the Route 32 study Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet before the end of the month.

5. FY 2021 STIP/Amendments

The Transportation Program Manager stated that the proposed amendments that would fund EV bus purchase does not include SEAT, because CTDOT first has to study and plan a new facility for SEAT that would accommodate EV buses.

MOTION: To recommend to the SCCOG the approval of the proposed STIP/TIP amendments (Hedrick, Salomone). So voted unanimously.

6. Proposed UPWP Amendment

The Executive Director stated that he has discussed with CTDOT a proposed amendment to the SCCOG's UPWP that would include his new position as Senior Advisor after he retires on July 1st. The position was not contemplated when the UPWP was drafted last spring.

Motion: To recommend to the SCCOG the proposed amendment to the SCCOG FY 2022-2023 UPWP, reflecting the creation of the Senior Advisor position beginning July 1, 2022 (Blanchard, Chesebrough). So voted unanimously.

7. Resolution No. 22-2, On Conformity with the Clean Air Act Ozone

The Executive Director explained the SCCOG annually adopts such a resolution, after CTDOT conducts an air quality conformity analysis of the region's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and TIP as required by the Federal Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA). The Transportation Program Manager stated that the resolution and conformity analysis will be the subject of a public hearing at the SCCOG's April 20th meeting.

MOTION: To recommend to the SCCOG the approval of Resolution No. 22-2, On Conformity with the Clean Air Act Ozone (Salomone, Hedrick). So voted unanimously.

8. Legislative Issue Discussion

SCCOG Legislative Committee Chairman Grant discussed with the Executive Committee the lack of funding for municipal revenue sharing grants this year and next year, and HB 5002 which would have expanded grants to municipalities in lieu of tax payments by the State, which did not make it past public hearing.

9. Request to Address SCCOG by Eversource and Orsted

The Executive Committee agreed to hear an update from Eversource and Orsted at the April meeting if they are ready to do so.

10. Other

The Executive Director informed the Executive Committee that staff was preparing a grant application for Community Project Funding from Congressman Courtney's office, which if funded, would be used for drainage improvements and rehabilitation of the SCCOG's driveway and parking lot. The Executive Committee expressed their support for this grant application.

The Executive Director asked if the Executive Committee still wished to hold the April COG meeting as a hybrid meeting, allowing in-person attendance, and the Executive Committee confirmed that it wished to do so.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

James S. Butler, Executive Director