



Meeting Minutes

November 2020 Meeting



November 20, 2020 - 8:30 am - via ZOOM

Allan Cahill, NECCOG Chair, opened meeting at 8:33am.

Representation from the following towns: Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Thompson, Voluntown, and Woodstock.

1. Call to Order

- Motion made by Allan Cahill to approve previous meeting minutes, first by Kevin Cunningham, second Gary Greenberg. All in favor — motion approved.
- **Public Participation** - none

2. Director's Report - John Filchak, NECCOG Executive Director

- **Property Purchase:** complete.
- **Transit Activities:** preparing for service adjustments related to COVID-19
 - Ridership numbers for rural and municipal services are still down >60%.
 - Plainfield ridership: AM route average, 6 passengers. PM route average, 2 passengers. 47 days of service since start of program with a total of 313 riders.
- **Animal Services:**
 - Norwich to join NECCOG Animal Services program has been delayed from June 2020 to early 2021.
 - Current activity is still on track to meet previous years numbers.
- **Engineering Program:**
 - Ashford: Senior Housing Sidewalk Replacement Project, Dock Replacement and Sidewalk Construction, Pool and Retaining Wall Construction
 - Brooklyn: Parking Expansion Review, Subdivision (multiple) Review, IWWC Reviews (multiple), Swimming Pool Reviews, Site Plan Review, Subdivision Reviews, Gravel Excavation, 51 Unit Multi-Family Development, and Pavement Condition Inspection
 - Canterbury: Road Relocation
 - Chaplin: Intersection Improvement Study

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- Pomfret: Future Salt Shed Site Plan, Sidewalk Project, Evaluate Drainage Issue and Road Width, Town Bridge Issue, Future Bulky Waste Site, and Horse Trailer Parking Review
- Putnam: Sidewalk and Pavement Restoration, Sidewalk Reconstruction, and Sidewalk Replacement LOTCIP Application
- **Paramedic Intercept Program:** operating steadily
- **Regional REVAL Program:** added in a section regarding COVID-19, submitted to attorneys and participating towns.
- **GIS Program Update:**
 - Parcel updates for Woodstock complete
 - Parcel updated for BrooklyIn in process
 - Working with Vision regarding extracts for Union
 - Working with eQuality and Vision on ownership extracts for other towns
 - Meeting (early December) to discuss possible additional participation in the program - addressing reluctant to participate and solutions.
- **Economic Development - EDD Application Status:** pending
- **CARES Act Recovery Assistance Grant Funding:** \$47,000 paid for work completed
- **Annual Audit:** in process and on time
- **Crumbling Foundations:** more than 250 foundations have been completed. There are over 16,000 people in the program. More information can be found at crumblingfoundations.org
- **Transportation Projects, LOTCIP and LRTP Status:**
 - LOTCIP Projects for Putnam and Thompson waiting on CONNDOT Review
 - STP Rural Projects for Eastford, Hampton and Thompson in progress
 - LRTP in progress
 - Updated MOU with CMRPC regarding cooperation
 - Veteran's Transportation Program on hold due to COVID-19
 - Airline Trail Crossings - Pomfret
- **Housing Plan Status:** in progress
- **Town Assistance - Chaplin, BrooklyIn, Woodstock, Union, Eastford and Canterbury**
 - Chaplin Housing Plan: Preliminary research completed, waiting on Department of Housing guidance document
 - Chaplin POCD: Work and meetings with Commission begun
 - BrooklyIn: no work to report
 - Woodstock Planner Assistance: Ongoing planner services provided per contract
 - Union: Initial drafts completed and multiple meetings help with Commission
 - Eastford: Ongoing planner/landuse services provided per contract
 - Canterbury POCD: Work and meetings with Commission progressing
- **Region IV DEMHS Activities and Recovery Efforts:** in progress
- **ACIR Best Practices Guides:** updated routinely

- **NECCOG Desegregate CT Forum:** 125 registrants and CTN (CT Television Network) has re-broadcasted it several times.
- **Upcoming Forums:**
 - Taxation
 - Food Security/Agriculture
- **2020 Annual Meeting:** Scheduled for Friday December 18, 2020

• **3. Discussion and Action Items**

a. Resolution 11-1-20 - Confirmatory resolution regarding the Executive Director's authority to sign on behalf of NECCOG for the purchase of the property located at 125 Putnam Pike.

Motion to approve - first, Bill Rose, second Kevin Cunningham. No discussion, all in favor - motion approved.

b. Regional Referrals: none

c. November Election Process Review: Douglas Lary, NECCOG Regional Election Monitor

Regardless of the impacts of COVID-19, there was still an 80% turnout.

d. Scaling Pandemic Resilience Through Innovation and Technology (Sprint) Challenge Grant, EDA:

- Environmental Depot & Animal Shelter Enhancements (motion to approve made by Tracey Hanson, second by Maureen Nicholson - all in favor - motion approved)

e. STIP Amendments or Actions - none

f. 2021 :Legislative Session and Legislative Priorities

- Modify current law to recognize regional programs through COGs and not require inter-local agreements
- Barking dog and other nuisance animal law reform
- Support efforts to fund and protect crumbling foundations initiatives
- COG Funding Formula

4. Chief Elected Official Roundtable

- Gary Greenberg, Scotland First Selectmen: in regards to Animal Services program inquired about cost of individual services such as kennel fees, wellness checks, etc. - NECCOG Animal Services is an all inclusive program. All services are outlined in each town's contract.

5. Adjournment 9:14am - motion made by Allan Cahill to adjourn. First by Gary Greenberg, second by Rick Ives - all in favor.