



neccog

Northeastern Connecticut Transit District



## Meeting Minutes

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February 10, 2017

Chairman Rick Ives opened the meeting at 8:46 am. Initially no quorum was present - so it was decided to carry on with an informal discussion with the legislative delegation. Members that were present: Brooklyn, Eastford, Scotland, Thompson and Woodstock.

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

Mr. Ives welcomed the region's legislative delegation and thanked them for taking the time to meet with the members of NECCOG. Legislators present were Pat Boyd, Danny Rovero, Doug Dubitsky, and Ann Dauphinais.

Mr. Ives began by asking the legislators to comment on the Governor's proposed budget.

Mr. Walker added his strong dislike for the proposal which appears to be penalizing efficiently run towns for the benefit of larger and often poorly managed cities. He then went through the direct monetary impacts to each of the NECCOG towns - noting that only Sterling would receive more state assistance than the previous budget.

Legislators discussed the transference of the deficit to the state's smaller towns and the potential consequences of pitting smaller towns against larger more urban municipalities. NECCOG members expressed concern that they are looking at 5 or more mil increases - that have no way for local passage.

The members expressed concern that the Governor is pushing for \$250 million renovation of the XL Center while asking towns to take on teacher retirement costs. Mr. Syme brought up the recently released CCM report which covers a range of ideas to address spending. Mr. Ives also noted that legislators need to also not be afraid to examine possible revenue adjustments such as the sales tax and income tax.

Other issues discussed included crumbling foundations, MS4, MERSA, Health District Consolidations and Tourism.

It was also mentioned to the legislators that next week a meeting between the respective executive committee of NECCOG and NHCOCG would take place at the LOB.

As there was no quorum - all business was tabled for the next regular meeting.

Adjournment - 10:22 am