



## Meeting Minutes

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February 24, 2017

Mr. Ives, NECCOG Chair, **opened the meeting** at 8:30

A **quorum** was noted and the following members were present: Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Union and Woodstock

The **Pledge of Allegiance** to the Flag was conducted

**Previous meeting minutes** were tabled on a motion from Mr. Walker and a second by Mr. Syme

**Public Participation** - Mr. Sarantopolous of Killingly raised the issue of the new housing to be constructed at the mill on Maple Street and he spoke of I-384 and asked why it could not be completed and where the COG stood on this issue.

**Director's Report** - Mr. Filchak spoke on the following matters:

- The **Veteran's Survey** for transportation services is now in the process of being distributed. The survey will be used to fortify a request for funding transportation services.
- The **proposed Plainfield transit service** is still waiting on CONNDOT action
- The **survey** conducted with CMRPC to examine north-south service is complete. The results (about 300 surveys) are not in our view complete and we will be meeting with the folks in MA to discuss
- Animal Services** is reasonably quiet in terms of activity. The District now providing full service for Bozrah, Lisbon, Franklin, Sprague, Lebanon and Cholesterol. They will make a decision to fully join in the Spring - thus far this has not proven to be a major issue and we have been backing them up for several years. Out staffing will increase slightly as a result of this - but we do not foresee any decrease in services.
- Transit District, General** - The weather has been our biggest issue of late. The recent press reports about funding decreases and cut backs in services at other districts (which we knew about last July) has not impacted NECTD. We are now attempting to secure a new driver to take on a third elderly/disables run. We conducted a job fair a few weeks ago.
- RFPs for Transit** - Video Surveillance and Mechanics are due on March 17th.
- Concrete Foundations** - The public hearing will be held this Tuesday at the LOB - a press conference will precede the hearing and we need as many of you in attendance as possible. Steve Werner, Town Manager of Tolland and Lisa Pellegrini (First Selectman from South Windsor) will be the leads. In summary, we are looking for:
  - ✓ A surcharge of \$50 on commercial and residential insurance policies to raise funds or allow STEAP funds for this issue
  - ✓ Waiving of state building fees
  - ✓ Prohibiting the use of pyrrhotite in aggregate intended for use in foundations over at the minimum what has been established by Canada 0.23% should not be allowed to be used as a concrete aggregate.
  - ✓ Aid in the form of grants to homeowners for 75% of the remediation costs up to at least \$75,000 per home or condo unit. We set the bar at \$75,000 because we believed this to be legislatively palatable, but if there is the possibility of increasing that maximum grant aid, we would support that.
  - ✓ Creation of a guaranteed loan fund. We do not believe a feasibility study is needed for this. The guaranteed loan fund will enable the homeowners to be able to make up the difference between the aid and the remaining amount. We know from the banks that such a guarantee would enable banks to leverage the guarantee to be 5 times the amount of the guarantee and enable them to make the "high risk" loans these could be.

- ✓ Increase in time limits for filing claims to insurance companies. At a minimum, the clock should not start ticking for the homeowner to sue their insurance companies until after the final denial letter has been received. Anecdotally we have heard insurance companies waiting until the last moment to send the denial letter in order to minimize the likelihood of lawsuit.
- ✓ Require mandatory disclosure of sellers to buyers regarding this issue (much like the lead paint disclosures that exist today). We need to bring back the confidence in the real estate market. This will help and also will help out-of-state buyers from being hoodwinked into the purchase of property that they might not have.
- ✓ Study of impact of requiring insurance companies to cover peril of collapse and mitigate against collapse). Although we do not believe additional studies are necessary, we recognize that having insurance companies required to cover the full amount of the damages is a high hurdle and could have many unintended consequences. Having this study, should not in no uncertain terms, however, prevent other forms of aid such as SB905 from moving forward during this legislative session.
- The Director also discussed the awarding of three **RPIP Grants** to NECOG totaling \$1.4 million
- Several **legislative initiatives** were discussed dealing with regionalism and the consolidation of health districts
- Tourism** - Director reviewed the current situation where the Districts have been removed from funding and the state has centralized its efforts. He explained that the Districts have continued on without state sanction and that the Eastern Chamber has made a major investment in tourism.
- Finally, the Director noted that they have now completed the **Scotland POCD**

## Discussion and Actions

### 1. State Transportation Improvement Plan Referrals (suggest block vote) *motion by Mr. Brodeur and second by Mr. Griffiths all were favorably approved as presented*

- a. Project # 0172-0471, Districts 1&2, REPLACE TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS AT 12 LOCATIONS, New Project, \$450,000
- b. Project # 0170-3439, Statewide - FEDERAL ELIGIBLE PE: TA PROGRAM - AC ENTRY, PE Phase, 2017 - New Project
- c. Project # 0170-3439, Statewide - FEDERAL ELIGIBLE PE: TA PROGRAM - AC ENTRY, PE Phase, 2017 - \$660,000 - New Project
- d. Project # 0108-0185 - Rt 12 Plainfield - REHAB BR 00668 OVER MILL BROOK - AC ENTRY - Con 2017 - ADD FY17 STPA AC ENTRY
- e. Project # 0108-0185 - Rt 12 Plainfield - REHAB BR 00668 OVER MILL BROOK - AC Conversion - Con 2017 - \$942,000 - INCREASE COST ESTIMATE FED \$259K. ADD "AC CONVERSION" TO DESCRIPTION
- f. Project # 0108-0185 - Rt 12 Plainfield - REHAB BR 00668 OVER MILL BROOK - AC ENTRY - Con 2017 - ADD FY17 STPA AC ENTRY
- g. Project # 0108-0185 - Rt 12 Plainfield - REHAB BR 00668 OVER MILL BROOK - AC ENTRY - Con 2017 - \$1,077,000 - ADD "AC CONVERSION" TO DESCRIPTION.

### 2. Transportation Alternatives - Contingency Project No. 108-189, Moosup Valley State Park Trail in the Town of Plainfield *motion by Mr. Syme and second by Mr. Beausoleil the project was approved as presented*

### 3. Policy Re-Affirmations/Updates (suggest block vote) *motion by Mr. Sweet and second by Mr. Griffiths the policies were approved as presented by block vote*

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| a. Affirmative Action (NECTD/NECCOG)       | d. ADA Policy (NECCOG and NECTD)         | g. NECTD Service and Fare Equity Policy |
| b. LEP Policy                              | e. NECTD Procurement Policy              | h. Title VI Policy (NECCOG and NECTD)   |
| c. Public Participation (NECCOG and NECTD) | f. NECTD Preventative Maintenance Policy | i. NECTD Reasonable Modification Policy |

### 4. Crumbling Foundations *approved on motion by Mr. Brodeur and second by Mr. Cahill approved the expenditure of up to \$10,000 in reserves for this task*

- a. Creation of a NECCOG Crumbling

Foundations Committee

b. Regional Forum for April

c. Contributions to the CRCOG Media Efforts

5. **Authorization** for the Executive Director to enter into **Agreements** with the **State** regarding **Regional Performance Incentive Grants** for: (1) **Regional Household Hazardous Waste Facility**, (2) **Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Study Case II** and (3) **Kennel Improvements** *Approved on a motion from Mr. Beausoleil and second by Mr. Syme and a second*

### **Selectmen's Roundtable**

- Meeting with Northwest Hills Council of Governments** - discussion of the pending meeting with NHCOG
- Paramedic Intercept PSA** for KB Ambulance - brief update from KB on the PSA - they have submitted all paperwork and are now awaiting final action

**Adjourn** - Motion by Mr. Cahill, second by Mr. Syme - 9:41 am

**Adjourn**