



neccog



Northeastern Connecticut
Transit District

Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2018

The following towns were represented: Ashford, Brooklyn, Chaplin, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Union, Woodstock.

Rick Ives, NECCOG Chair, **opened meeting** at 8:30am with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Ives asked for a motion to accept the previous meeting minutes (Mr. Syme made the motion - Mr. Griffiths seconded), all agree.

Public Participation: none

No additional agenda items were proposed.

Director's Report, John Filchak, updated the Council on the following matters:

- Plainfield Transit Re-Introduction: explaining that the initiative is currently on hold due to funding.
- Transit District Operations - NECTD to be looking waiting final approval for the purchase of new buses, as cost to maintain current buses continues to increase.
- Crumbling Foundations: progress has been made with the Captive Insurance Company. A meeting in regards to reimbursement is set to be held in November. Due to a cap on the reimbursement amount, coverage will not be 100% as many residents previously assumed. Mr. Eaton made comment of how residents have raised arguments about how money is to be distributed based on value of building vs. damage.
- Animal Shelter: Mr. Filchak shared that he has previously met with the architects and that construction is due to begin in 2019.
- 125 Putnam Pike Purchase: status remains the same as agreements are in the final stages.
- Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Study: study is in progress
- CCM Annual Meeting Workshop: Director withdrew from the conference due to differing opinions as to the future role of COGs
- HHW Site Grant - Director discussed that the grant will lapse if a site is not found in the very near term.
- Regional Audit Services: continuing to work with NECCOG attorney on approaches.

Discussion and Action Items

1. Regional Referrals

- a. Town of Plainfield - Text Amendment for Section 20, Application Fee Schedule

No regional impact indicated by the Director, on a motion from Mr. Syme and second by Mr. Griffiths it passed unanimously Director motion to move forward.

2. **Recycling** - Current Situation and What the Future Holds - Willimantic Waste Paper - Tom DeVivo and Tim DeVivo. They reviewed that the cost of recycling is rising due to the China market being closed. They shared that the majority of recycling in New England is exported overseas (Asia, India, Indonesia) from Port Elizabeth, of which toll costs have inflated as well (\$125 per trip). There is an initiative in place to update Willimantic Waste customers on items that are accepted through Single Stream and recycling. Initiative includes changing wording from "plastic" to "bottles", sending out list with billing for clarification, to update their website, and to get word out that they have an app in place to help with sorting through household items. Questions of a new facility was answered, stating that it is due to open in roughly seven months, though the amount of waste produced exceeds the capacity of the facilities. Willimantic Waste is open to discussion about removal of household hazardous waste in the future. Discussion of pay as you throw and curbside pickup - curbside pickup reduced trash left on the side of roads substantially, though pay as you throw would reduce amount of waste produced per customer.

3. **2019 Legislative Issues**

- Emails to Director are welcome about regional items to be discussed in 2019.
- Tree removal services are being looked into for funding - has to be at a legislative level, and has been added to the list for 2019.

Adjourn - Motion at 9:46am by Mr. Griffiths - second by Mr. Syme - Approved