

**Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Agency  
Minutes  
January 8, 2007**

**Attendance:**

Chester:  
Clinton:  
Deep River: Bruce Edgerton, Rob Wylie  
Essex: Tom Danyliw  
Killingworth: Jere Adametz, Pat Smulders  
Lyme: Frank Skwarek, Ning Rich  
Old Lyme:  
Old Saybrook:  
Westbrook: Bill Neale  
Staff: Linda Krause, Torrance Downes, Wini Olson  
Guest: Sharon Nelson

Chairman Bruce Edgerton called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM in the CRERPA Conference Space at 455 Boston Post Road, Old Saybrook, CT. 06475. Round table introductions were given.

Carla Feroni, who has been elected Chairman of the Essex Planning Commission, and will step down as CRERPA representative, has appointed Tom Danyliw to serve as her successor on the CRERPA board. Sharon Nelson is observing the Agency prior to seeking appointment to serve as the Selectmen's representative from Essex.

**I. Minutes**

Ning Rich moved that the minutes of the December 2006 meeting be approved as circulated. The motion was seconded by Jere Adametz and unanimously approved.

**II. Reports**

A. Treasurer

Linda distributed copies of the cash flow for the first six months of FY 2006-2007. She announced that Treasurer Steve Williams has saved the Agency money by consolidating the CRERPA telephone accounts. Linda reminded members that Regional Planning Organizations receive a State Grant in Aid from OPM. CRERPA receives \$43,000 annually. The Governor has established an Office of Responsible Growth to be administered within OPM under the auspices of the Undersecretary of Intergovernmental Planning. Undersecretary LeVasseur is hoping to add additional funding to the SGIA in the next budget year.

B. Transportation

Linda reported that Jean Davies is working on the Regional Transportation Plan.

C. Referrals

Torrance distributed Summary sheets for four referrals.

**Salem** The Salem Planning and Zoning commission is making several changes. Torrance noted two additions that he believes could concern the town of Lyme.

1. The addition of Bed and Breakfast establishments will be allowed in zones adjacent to Old Lyme.

2. Temporary uses will be allowed in zones adjacent to Lyme. The temporary Events/Uses would be by permit and would be limited to 72 hours. They could include carnivals, swap meets, live events, outdoor sports including rodeos.

Ning Rich asked if Lyme could have the opportunity to comment on specific proposals.

Frank Skwarek suggested that a 500 foot buffer might be appropriate.

**Deep River:** The Deep River Planning and Zoning Commission is expanding the scope of its sign regulations. Torrance expressed concern about the forced removal of outdated signs and suggested that, in general, the language should be consistent with that of the Plan of Conservation and Development.

**Deep River:** The Deep River Planning and Zoning Commission is considering adding provisions for Age-Restricted Development. Torrance expressed concern that the draft Plan of Conservation and Development encourages diverse housing opportunities, but age seclusion is not listed as a desired goal. Torrance also expressed concern over the rational of only requiring a 25% increase in size for lots in the R20 zone with neither water nor sewer while requiring lots in the R40 zone with neither water nor sewer to have twice the size of a lot with infrastructure.

**Westbrook:** A proposed seven lot re- subdivision on Toby Hill straddles the Essex boundary and requires road reconstruction in Essex. Concern was expressed about issues with the road and various ways to address them.

Frank Skwarek moved that the staff incorporate board comments with the Staff report and forward the results to the appropriate parties. The motion was Seconded by Ning Rich and unanimously approved.

#### B. Gateway

Linda reported that she and Torrance went to Superior Court for the Gateway appeal of the Barnik ZBA decision in Chester. No decision has yet been rendered by the judge.

#### C. ETD

Linda reported that the ETD has hired a new Executive Director. Brad Beecher is a retired Resident State Trooper who initiated the Casino unit of the State Police and lives in Old Saybrook. He is very enthusiastic.

#### D. MPO

Bruce Edgerton reported that at the December 15 meeting, Jean Davies reported that she is working on the Regional Transportation Plan. The present plan was adopted in 2005. All regions are required to update their plan in 2007 to be on a consistent schedule. The new plan includes the new Air Quality standards. The plan will be presented to towns in February. Bruce reported that the

Transportation Improvement Plan amendments now are coded using system of 1 to 5 to indicate the type of change to the item. A more definitive coding may be needed. Items that received a time extension due to funding include the Route 80/81 roundabout in Killingworth and the Great Brook Bridge in Chester.

**III. Old Business**

There was no Old Business.

**IV. New Business**

A. Linda announced that Jean Davies and Margot Burns are applying for a Hazard Mitigation Grant to identify and evaluate evacuation shelters in the region. The application must be submitted by Thursday, January 11. Linda asked that the Agency authorize the submission of the application.

Jere Adametz moved that the staff be authorized to apply for a grant to identify, map and evaluate key resources in the Hazard Mitigation Plan. The motion was seconded by Bill Neale and unanimously approved.

B. Emergency Management

Linda reported that CRERPA is doing additional mapping of emergency shelters in cooperation with EMD Dave Roberge of Old Lyme.

C. New HHW Contract

Linda reported that Lower Connecticut Valley Selectmen's Association has appointed a sub committee to assist in negotiating a new contract pertaining to Household Hazardous Waste

D. The Lower Connecticut River Valley Selectmen's Association and the Connecticut River Estuary Metropolitan Planning Organization will meet Wednesday morning at the M. Monica Eggert Senior Center on Main Street in Old Saybrook. The group will tour the remodeled facility and meet Paula Ferraro in her new capacity as Director of the Senior Center.

E. Janice Ehle-Meyer is the newly appointed editor of the CRERPA newsletter, The Forum.

F. The Lyme Planning and Zoning Commission has asked Linda to meet with another sub-committee as it considers the Fritz Gahagen proposal for a new section on Cluster Development.

G. Linda suggested to the Chester Planning and Zoning Commission that they needed someone to manage their Plan of Development project. They asked Linda to manage the project. The Commission will hold two public workshops on Saturday mornings in February.

H. Jere Adametz asked about the progress of the Killingworth Plan of Conservation and Development. Torrance has discussed the matter with Commission Chairperson Tom Lentz.

I. Westbrook is seeking a new Zoning Enforcement Officer. Torrance is contacting CAZEO on their behalf. He may also assist in the revision of the Westbrook zoning regulations.

Bill Neale moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Pat Smulders. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38. The next meeting will be held on February 5, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Neale, Secretary