

**Lower Connecticut River Valley Selectmen's Association  
October 12, 2005  
Minutes**

**Attendance:**

Chester:	Martin Heft
Clinton:	Jim McCusker
Deep River:	
Essex:	Phil Miller
Killingworth:	
Lyme:	Bill Koch
Old Lyme:	Tim Griswold
Old Saybrook:	Mike Pace, Bill Peace
Westbrook:	Tony Palermo
Staff:	Linda Krause, Jean Davies, Wini Olson

Chairman Mike Pace called the meeting to order in the CRERPA conference space at 455 Boston Post Road at 8:56 AM.

**II. Minutes**

Phil Miller moved that the minutes of the September 14, 2005 meeting be approved as circulated.

The motion was seconded by Jim McCusker and unanimously approved.

**III. Regional Recycling**

Chairman Pace noted that although this is the only region to employ a Recycling Coordinator, experience has proven it to be a wise investment. He recommended continuing the \$28,000 assessment to pay the coordinator and \$30,000 for the Host Town Benefit.

Linda Krause introduced Janice Ehle /Meyer as the new coordinator. Janice will be replacing both Amy Cabaniss and Ralph Eno.

Chairman Pace asked the CRERPA staff to send a glowing letter of thanks to Amy for her many years of help and cooperation. He also asked that a letter be sent to Ralph.

Linda reported that Ralph, who is not noted for his admiration of government, had send a very gracious note to CRERPA, stating that he had enjoyed being part of the staff that acts more like a family. He expressed appreciation for the wide range of services the Agency provides.

Chairman Pace called on Janice for a review of the last two collections and discussed the continuing need for education. He suggested that she contact Tom Gaffey and coordinate regional publicity with that of CRRA.

Phil Miller suggested that she contact the curriculum coordinators at the various schools.

Linda noted that the construction is basically done and the coordinator can again devote her time to education.

Chairman Pace mentioned the electronics collection . A discussion of the need and ways to utilize the opportunity followed.

Martin Heft moved that \$28,000 be appropriated to fund the position of Recycling Coordinator. The motion was seconded by Jim McCusker and unanimously approved.

Martin Heft moved that a sum of \$30,000 be appropriated for the Host Town fee. The motion was seconded by Jim McCusker and unanimously approved.

#### **IV. Natural Hazards Mitigation Update**

Jean reported that there has been an increased interest shown in natural hazards. She will be going from town to town for local review. So far, she has met with Bill Buckridge in Essex and Christine Nelson in Old Saybrook. In Old Saybrook, it will be used as part of the Plan of Conservation and Development. It may also be adopted as a separate document.

Jean reported that Margot Burns is working on mapping the projected surge possibilities. Flood areas and hurricane surges tend to be different.

It was agreed that with an anticipated surge, Westbrook and Old Saybrook would need to evacuate to the north.

Phil Miller asked if the plan is available in electronic form.. He would like to publish it as part of the local newsletter. Jean assured him that it is on the CRERPA Website and can be downloaded from there.

Chairman Pace mentioned his concern for the Cornfield Point section of Old Saybrook. He asked if federal funding is available for alleviation.

Jean explained that adoption of the Plan makes the town eligible for Federal Funding.

#### **V. Old Business**

##### **A. Homeland Security**

Linda Krause announced that the districts for Homeland Security preparations have been reconfigured at the state level. There are now five regions. An attempt was made to retain Regional Planning Organization boundaries. Only two regions have been split. In both cases, it was due to local options. The Estuary Region was fractured because Lyme and Old Lyme prefer to retain their affiliation with the Millstone group. Midstate is fractured because Middletown and other “northern tier” towns have been part of the Capitol Region Security plan. The balance

of both RPAs have become part of the Greater New Haven Region 2. An organizational meeting was held last week. Linda contacted Bill Buckridge who was unable to attend or to send a representative. She is trying to learn how he prefers to be involved.

In discussion it was agreed that five seems to have become the “magic number” for regions for various state functions. Locally, a lot of reliance is placed on fire, police and mutual aid. It was agreed that the possibility of traveling to New Haven under emergency conditions seems ludicrous.

Linda mentioned that she is scheduled to meet with Paul Pascarelli of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security this afternoon.

**B. HHW Facility**

The facility seems to be working well except for the alarm system. Janice has had to respond to two midnight false alarms. The electrician has been called. It was suggested that this is part of the Host Town responsibility and Phil Miller’s number should be added to the list of responders. He also suggested that Fire Marshall Keith Nolin lives across the street from Janice and should be a resource.

**C. Broadwater**

Phil Miller noted that all five Connecticut Congressmen, our two senators and 31 towns have protested the Broadwater Plan.

Tim Griswold does see merit in the plan. He would like to have a regional forum.

Chairman Pace announced that a Regional will be held at 7PM on November 29 in the Old Saybrook Middle School.

Andrea Stillman is assisting with preparations.

**VI. Other Business**

A. Jim McCusker asked who intends to attend the candidate meeting at the Estuary Council of Seniors on October 31. All candidates intend to attend.

**D. Pump-out boat**

Phil Miller announced that the pump out boat transferred 28,000 gallons of effluent this season. Old Saybrook leads in the number of gallons.

Mike Pace commented that he wants to review the Interagency contract.

Phil noted that the no discharge area is being extended to Groton. State and Federal funding seems secure.

Mike wants to be sure that there is an exit plan “just in case”.

**E. Senior Center**

Mike Pace reported that the alterations to the Senior Center are going well. There have been some modifications to the plans. The project seems to be coming in under budget.

F. Tim Griswold noted that this is Jim McCusker's final meeting. Jim noted that Clinton is a charter town and he does not leave office until November 21. He will attend the November meeting. It was agreed to have a celebratory event.

Jim noted that one of the best parts of the fellowship is the non-partisan atmosphere of the group.

- II. Linda reminded members that the Council of Elected Officials will meet in Old Saybrook at Penny Lane at noon on October 26.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy C. Griswold, Secretary