

MIDSTATE REGIONAL PLANNING AGENCY  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

DATE: August 2, 2011

PLACE: Midstate Regional Planning Agency  
100 DeKoven Drive  
Middletown, CT

MEMBERS: CROMWELL

Al Diaz \*  
Richard Newton  
John Flanders

DURHAM

Laura Francis \*  
Richard Eriksen \*

EAST HADDAM

Melissa Ziobron  
Mark Walter  
Vacancy

EAST HAMPTON

Mark Philhower \*  
Andrew Tierney  
John Weichsel

HADDAM

Stasia DeMichele  
Raul deBrigard \* (7:37)  
Paul DeStefano

MIDDLEFIELD

David Lowry  
Jerry Russ \*  
Jon Brayshaw \*

MIDDLETOWN

W. Lee Osborne \*  
Catherine Johnson  
Carl Bolz \*  
Sebastian Giuliano

PORTLAND

C. Joseph Seiferman \*  
Vacancy  
Susan Bransfield

STAFF: Geoffrey Colegrove, Executive Director \*  
Robert Haramut, Transportation Planner \*

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\* Designates present

## **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Eriksen.

## **AMENDMENTS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There were no amendments and the agenda was approved, as presented.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion of Mr. Osborne, seconded by Mr. Bolz, it was unanimously voted to:

**APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 21, 2011 AGENCY MEETING.**

## **PUBLIC SESSION**

No one spoke at this time.

## **JON BRAYSHAW, CT RIVER VALLEY COUNCIL OF ELECTED OFFICIALS, DISCUSSION OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF MIDSTATE RPA AND CT RIVER ESTUARY RPA**

Mr. Brayshaw distributed copies of correspondence pertaining to the pending consolidation between the two agencies. A map outlining the towns effected shows that the new region would encompass 17 towns; Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, Essex, Haddam, Killingworth, Lyme, Middlefield, Middletown, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Portland and Westbrook. The Chief Elected Officials of these towns have been meeting monthly to share ideas and concerns.

Another key issue is timing the passage of local ordinances creating a COG which also relates to changing the boundaries of the Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). CRERPA and MRPA are Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO's) under federal statutes and regulations. CRERPA is in the New Haven Metropolitan Area and MRPA is in the Hartford/Springfield Metropolitan Area. In order to change the boundaries the Governor and the municipalities that represent at least 75% of the MPA's population would need to approve the new MPA boundaries and the most populated municipality in the MPA must approve the re-designation.

It was stated that an independent study of the two agencies and the consolidation issues need to be discussed and compared, such items as an audit, personnel issues, office space, funds for moving, leases, office equipment and furniture, etc.

### **CONSOLIDATION CONSULTANT – FINANCE AND PERSONNEL**

Mr. Colegrove distributed copies of the proposal prepared by Randi Frank of Randi Frank Consulting LLC (including addendum #2) to study the various financial and personnel issues related to the consolidation of the Midstate and Estuary Regions. The scope of the proposal was discussed along with fact that the consultant would be providing an independent view of the two organizations and making recommendations to the LCRVCEO to blend the policies.

Upon motion of Mr. deBrigard, seconded by Mr. Osborne, it was unanimously voted to:

APPROVE THE RANDI FRANK CONSULTING, LLC  
PROPOSAL, INCLUDING ADDENDUM #2, NOT TO EXCEED  
\$10,000 IN COST.

### **2010-2013 TIP AMENDMENT #41 – CULVERT REHABILITATION ON CROMWELL, PROJECT #0033-0127**

Upon motion of Mr. Osborne, seconded by Ms. Francis, it was unanimously voted to:

APPROVE THE 2010-2013 TIP AMENDMENT #41 –  
CULVERT REHABILITATION ON CROMWELL, PROJECT  
#0033-0127.

### **ZONING AND SUBDIVISION REFERRAL**

Copies of the “Midstate Zoning and Subdivision Referral” forms #001-006 were distributed to the members. The referrals were presented by staff, discussed, and the following action was taken.

Referral - #001 – Upon motion of Mr. Bolz, seconded by Ms. Francis, it was unanimously voted to:

NOTIFY THE EAST HADDAM PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION THAT THE PROPOSED ZONING REGULATION CHANGES TO CLARIFY AND EXPAND SECTION 12.1 REGULATING SIGNS IS NOT IN CONFLICT WITH THE ADOPTED ZONING REGULATIONS IN THE ABUTTING MIDSTATE MUNICIPALITIES.

Referral - #002 – Upon motion of Mr. Osborne, seconded by Ms. Francis, it was unanimously voted to:

NOTIFY THE KILLINGWORTH PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION THAT THE PROPOSED ZONING REGULATION CHANGES ARE NOT OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Referral - #003 – Upon motion of Mr. Bolz, seconded by Ms. Francis, it was unanimously voted to:

NOTIFY THE EAST HAMPTON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION THAT THE PROPOSED ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT FOR A NEW FLOATING ZONE CALLED “PLANNED DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS” IS NOT IN CONFLICT WITH THE ZONING REGULATIONS IN THE ABUTTING MIDSTATE MUNICIPALITIES.

Referral - #004 – Upon motion of Mr. Bolz, seconded by Ms. Francis, it was unanimously voted to:

NOTIFY THE PORTLAND PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION THAT THE PROPOSED ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT TO ADD TO THE USE TABLE FOR THE B-1 COMMERCIAL ZONE “DWELLINGS, ONE UNIT APARTMENT OCCUPIED BY THE OWNER, MANAGER, CARETAKER, OR JANITOR ON THE SAME LOT AS THE PERMITTED BUSINESS USE” ARE NOT IN CONFLICT WITH THE ZONING REGULATIONS IN THE ABUTTING MIDSTATE MUNICIPALITIES.

Referral - #005 – Upon motion of Mr. Bolz, seconded by Ms. Francis, it was unanimously voted to:

NOTIFY THE ROCKY HILL PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION THAT THE PROPOSED ZONING TEXT AMENDMENTS TO CHANGE THE DEFINITIONS OF "FILLING" AND "STREET" ARE NOT OF REGIONAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Referral - #006 – Upon motion of Mr. Brayshaw, seconded by Ms. Francis, it was unanimously voted to:

NOTIFY THE EAST HAMPTON PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION THAT THE PROPOSED ZONING TEXT AMENDMENT TO ADD "LIBRARIES, CHURCHES, MUSEUMS OR AUDITORIUMS" TO THE PERMITTED USE TABLE FOR THE DESIGN DEVELOPMENT ZONE ARE NOT IN CONFLICT WITH THE ZONING REGULATIONS IN THE ABUTTING MIDSTATE MUNICIPALITIES.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

There were no items at this time.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey L. Colegrove  
for William Lee Osborne