

January 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

Mr. Walker oped the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and noted that a quorum was present (Ashford, Brooklyn, Chaplin, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Putnam, Pomfret, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Union and Woodstock)

Previous meeting minutes were table until the February Regular meeting

John Sarantopoulos - Expressed his disagreement with towns having the ability to opt in or out of programs - towns, he stated should save money as their priority. He also stated the the rRegion needs 1-384 completed.

Director's Report - The Director (1) updated the members on the activities of the MORE Commission - including CONNDOT's recommendation that the two rural areas be left out of any MPO areas, (2) discussed the need to reshape the Comprehensive Economic development Strategy in light of the new regional configuration, (3) discussed the need to completed local actions on the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and (4) informed the members that as of January 1 Chaplin was now a member of the Animal Services Program.

Regional Referrals: Motion by Mr. Sweet, Second by Ms Nicholson

- a. Town of Sprague, Proposed Zone Text Amendment concerning interior lots, driveways and non-conforming lots
- b. Town of Plainfield, Proposed Text Amendment to re-word Section 14.13 "Change to Conforming Use
- c. Town of Plainfield, Proposed Text Amendments to Section 7.1a Detached Structures and Section 1.2 Definitions, Section 8.2a and 12 regarding Boarding Houses and Tourist Homes

GIS Presentation - Jim Larkin, NECCOG Associate Director provided the members with an overview and demonstration of the NECCOG GIS system and the services that can be provided. Mr. Sweet made a motion that NECCOG ask towns for \$25,000 (collectively) to cover the basic costs of GIS software/delivery maintenance - second by Mr. Syme - passed unanimously.

Brooklyn Sidewalk Project - Members on a motion from Mr. Sweet and a Second by Ms Nicholson gave full support to the application to utilize Worcester Urban Funds to complete approximately 900' of sidewalk on Route 6 from the terminus of the present sidewalk to the entrance of the new Walmart store.

2014 legislative Issues - Members discussed possible legislative priorities for the 2014 Session and to discuss with the delegation in February. The issues emerged as the primary ones to discuss: Town Employee Appointment Reform, ECEC Renewal. Timely Budget Process, Issuance of Pistol Permits, State Police Dispatch Consolidation, and Town Personnel Appointment Reform.

Northeast Visitor Center - decision to re-open the former study

2014-15 NECCOG Budget - Director discussed that with the exception of the Paramedic Program - no increases were anticipated.

Selectmen's Roundtable - Discussion of the State Police consolidation and possible interest in sharing a building official

Adjourn - 11:30 motion by Nicholson, second by Brodeur