

**Regional Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
Virtual Meeting
Thursday, November 19, 2020
7pm**

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

Attendance

Jennifer Bartiss-Earley, Chair
Tom Manning
Jon Thiesse
Ed Marek
Matt Pogson
Gary Bazzano
Mike Stebe
Stanley Sobieski
Brendan Malone
Lamont Aheart
Bruce Meyer
Thomas Armstrong

Town/Organization

Plainville
Bolton
Canton
Coventry
Farmington
Hartford
Manchester
Newington
Suffield
Vernon
Tolland
Avon

Staff

Kimberly Bona	CRCOG
Mike Cipriano	CRCOG
Lynne Pike DiSanto	CRCOG
Caitlin Palmer	CRCOG
Tim Malone	CRCOG

Guests

Muad Hrezi	Independent Living Solutions
Luke Reynolds	Desegregate CT

Chairperson Jennifer Bartiss-Earley called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chairperson Jennifer Bartiss-Early welcomed everyone.

2. Adoption of Minutes: September 17, 2020

Stanley Sobieski moved to approve the minutes of September 17, 2020 as presented. Brendan Malone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

3. Memo and Presentation: Desegregate CT – Efforts to Reform Land Use Regulations to be More Inclusive

Luke Reynolds, Deputy Coordinator of Desegregate CT described the coalition's work to change land use policy to expand housing opportunities throughout the state through education and legislation. To view the presentation, please click [here](#). Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Herzi discussed with commission members local issues and potential zoning reforms.

4. Report on Zoning and Subdivision Referrals

Caitlin Palmer reviewed recent zoning and subdivision referrals with the RPC.

Gary Bazzano made a motion to approve the referrals as presented. Stanley Sobieski seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

5. Approval of 2021 Meeting Schedule

Stanley Sobieski made a motion to approve the 2021 RPC Meeting Schedule as presented. Gary Bazzano seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

6. What's New in My Town? A Discussion and Report on Local Planning and Development Activities in the Municipalities of the Capitol Region

Plainville - Jennifer Bartiss-Early stated presentations have been made to the town council regarding two land parcels. Hoping the council approves.

Canton – Several issues going on in town right now.

Vernon – New luxury apartment complex being constructed on Route 83 corridor.

Bolton – The bike trail is getting much use.

Newington – Former National Welding property will have condos constructed on it. Looking to make this a TOD overlay zone.

Suffield – Not many applications. Planner is still working on the POCD – they have applied for an extension with the State.

Hartford – Broke ground on Downtown North development. Working on Complete Streets Plan.

Farmington – Potential discussion of repurposing use of West Farms Mall. Large apartment development proposed near the medical buildings and old Baptist Church.

7. Other Business

Caitlin Palmer shared research she compiled on resources and issues related to outdoor dining during the pandemic. Chair Bartiss-Earley requested that this work be shared with town planners.

With no other business, Gary Bazzano made a motion to adjourn at 8:024 pm. Monty Aheart seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.