

MINUTES, PLANNING & ZONING PLAN OF CONSERVATION & DESIGN SUBCOMMITTEE, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2022, 7:00 P.M.

- A. **Call to Order** was at 7:05 pm.
- B. **Roll Call:** J. Castignoli, J. Mortimer, J. Quish / STAFF: D. Sulkis, M. Greene

C. Topic for discussion:

- 1. **Discussion of working draft on chapters: Open Space and Recreation, Coastal Resources and Long Island Sound.**

Chairman Quish opened the meeting. He said during the group’s hiatus, the consultant has been working on the document starting at its beginning. **Mr. Sulkis** said he is preparing the document for the consultant chapter by chapter, updating information that has changed over the past 10 years—removing some items, adding others, making sure external regulatory references such as coastal information is current, and then handing it off. He said all graphics had to be updated by Milford’s GIS analyst and the consultant. He said that he (David Sulkis) is updating the next several chapters to go to the consultant. **Chairman Quish** asked for list of chapters being updated; **Mr. Sulkis** said: summary, land use section, future trends, open space, and recreation. **Chairman Quish** asked if the subcommittee’s deliberations are being incorporated; **Mr. Sulkis** said this was definitely much the case because much of the basis for selecting the consultant was the fact that they had read about the subcommittee’s work prior to the interviewing process. He said the first 40 pages of book have been revised and he expected the next 40-60 pages to be presented to the consultant shortly, consisting of agriculture, housing, and historic preservation. **Chairman Quish** asked if the role of the subcommittee should change to make best use of the time remaining before the document is due. **Mr. Sulkis** said the next step is to finalize the edits to the draft. He said that when the draft is fully assembled, the subcommittee should read it, and provide feedback, then provide it to the full board. He said the existing document itself is good but contains 10-year-old data that can’t be included. He said in his view the best use of time is reading drafts as they are created, ensuring that it reflects the subcommittee’s ideas and concerns. He stressed that the POCD is a planning tool, not an implementation document, using the example of the Environmental Concerns Coalition’s requests for bike lanes, which can be referenced without determining how it’s done. **Chairman Quish** asked about creating an online chronicle of how the subcommittee is proceeding, perhaps using social media. **Mr. Sulkis** suggested posting the draft document section by section if the board so desired. **Chairman Quish** suggested allowing public participation for sections with high interest like housing or sustainability. **Mr. Sulkis** noted a limited budget that might be optimized such that only new information is sought to enhance what we now have. For example, he said the city has adopted a housing plan that will be incorporated by reference. **Mr. Mortimer** said he favored getting chapters updated before adding new ideas from public. **Mr. Sulkis** said that if 4 or 5 topics were grouped, 2 or 3 public meetings could result. **Chairman Quish** asked what the “drop dead date” is for publication and whether a 6-month extension might be granted due to Covid-19. That said, he said he preferred having the draft ready by February even with an extension. Discussion ensued about how often to meet and whether the consultant could provide a timeline for posting a draft. There was an attempt to set the date for the next meeting with the goal of having a chapter to review prior to public input. **Mr. Sulkis** envisioned a public hearing with whole board. **Chairman Quish** said he wanted to plan for the end of this cycle of POCD activity. **Mr. Castignoli** underscored the importance of an organizational meeting.

Topics not discussed:

- 2. Map updates.
 - 3. Committee member suggestions/comments
- D. **Minutes** from 3/30/22 were approved unanimously.
 - E. **Adjournment** was at 7:34.