



April 1, 2025 SECOG Executive Committee

Minutes

PRESENT: Via Zoom: Bob Carlson, John Salomone, Tom DeVivo, Cheryl Blanchard.

Staff: Amanda Kennedy (Via Zoom), Kate Rattan, Dan Robinson (In-person).

- 1) Call to Order: Chairman Blanchard called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m.
- 2) Roll Call: A quorum was present.
- 3) Program Updates:
 - a) Ms. Kennedy shared that she and Ms. Helen Zincavage were attending a conference in Washington D.C. to remain informed about the Office of Local Community Defense Cooperation grants, which support multiple SECOG projects.
- 4) 2025 LOTCIP Pre-Applications:
 - a) Ms. Rattan provided an update on the relevant LOTCIP roundabout application on Vauxhall Road in New London.
MOTION: To recommend that SECOG MPO Board approve submission of the Application for the proposed project (Salomone, Carlson). Motion passed unanimously.
- 5) TIP Amendments
 - a) Ms. Rattan summarized the relevant TIP amendments.
MOTION: To recommend that SECOG MPO Board endorse TIP Amendments 0028-0207, 0103-0284, and 0120-0097 (DeVivo, Salomone). Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) New Business – There was no new business to report on.
- 7) Potential Speakers

Ms. Kennedy shared that she is in touch with America 250 and that their representatives are interested in speaking at the SECOG Board Meeting. She added that they will likely be the speakers at the upcoming April SECOG Board Meeting.

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Mr. Salomone raised concerns about federal implications to essential education dollars to Connecticut, citing that certain schools are more vulnerable to cuts than others (i.e. free lunch programs). Mr. Salomone said that towns must plan accordingly, but the strategy is not immediately clear. Mr. DeVivo sympathized with Mr. Salomone's concerns about making up the lost education dollars. Ms. Kennedy explored the feasibility of recognizing this issue collectively as a COG. Next, she spoke about her attendance at the "State of Mystic, Stonington and Groton" event and described it as a great resource for information sharing. She explored the possibility of holding a similar State of Southeastern Connecticut event if member municipalities got on board.

- 8) Next meeting: SECOG Board meeting is April 16th at 8:30 AM in person at the SECOG Office. The next SECOG Executive Committee meeting is May 6th at 9:00 AM and will be a hybrid meeting at the SECOG Office and on Zoom.

- 9) Adjournment:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting (Salomone, DeVivo). Motion passed unanimously.
Chairman Blanchard adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Kennedy, Executive Director, on behalf of Thomas DeVivo, Secretary

