MINUTES OF 11/13/19 MEETING OF THE
SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
SCCOG OFFICE, NORWICH, CT

PRESENT: Council Representatives: Carl Zorn, Bozrah; Charles Grant, Franklin; Todd Babbitt, Griswold; Keith Hedrick, City of Groton; Timothy Sharkey, Jewett City; Kevin Cwikla, Lebanon; Fred Allyn, III, Ledyard; Tom Sparkman, Lisbon; Ron McDaniel, Montville; Michael Passero, New London; Mike Urgo, North Stonington; Sandra Allyn-Gauthier, Preston; Kevin Lyden, Salem; Cheryl Allen Blanchard, Sprague; Jeff Callahan, Borough of Stonington; Danielle Chesebrough, Town of Stonington; Rob Brule, Waterford. Council Alternates: John Burt, Town of Groton; John Salomone, Norwich; Jim Rivers, Windham. Tribal Liaison: Robert Hayward, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation; Chuck Bunnell, Mohegan Tribe. Military Liaison: Captain Todd Moore, Adam Wright, U.S. Naval SUBASE; Captain Smith, USCGA. Staff: James Butler, Amanda Kennedy. Other: Mike Carroll, Al Fritzsche, Cherise Perkins, SEAT; Nancy Cowser, seCTer; Wendy Bury, SECT Cultural Coalition; Terry Jackman, Eversource; Ed Dombroskas, Eastern CT Tourism District; Catherine Young, CT Airport Authority; Grayson Wright, CTDOT; Dan Daniska, Norwich; Bob Ross, CT OMA; Frank Fish; Bob Congdon; Dominick Celtruda;

1. Call to Order: The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Roll Call: A quorum was present.

3. Pledge of Allegiance: The Chairman led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

   The Chairman then welcomed the new SCCOG members.

4. Act on Minutes 10/16/19:

   MOTION: To approve the minutes of 10/16/19 (Urgo, Hedrick). So voted unanimously.

5. Treasurer's Report:

   MOTION: To approve the November Treasurer's Report (Hedrick, Grant). So voted unanimously.

6. Public Comment:

   None.

7. Communications:

   The Executive Director noted the letter in the Agenda Packet from Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation Chairwoman Katherine Sebastian Dring requesting that her Tribe participate in the SCCOG.

MOTION: To refer the letter from Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation Chairwoman Sebastian Dring to the Executive Committee (Lyden, McDaniel). So voted unanimously.

8. Presentations:

A. JLUS Implementation Project – Frank Fish, BFJ Planning

Mr. Ross stated that this project was funded by the Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment, and that Senator Murphy was helpful in obtaining this funding. The Executive Director then introduced Frank Fish, a principal in BFJ Planning, the lead consultant on this project. Mr. Fish then presented a Power Point presentation outlining the study findings and recommendations.

MOTION: To accept the SUBASE New London Joint Land Use Study Implementation Project: Regional Plan for Housing and Transportation Associated with Expansion of Submarine Shipbuilding in Southeastern Connecticut (Hedrick, Grant). So voted unanimously.

9. Committee and Liaison Reports

A. Executive Committee

1. FY 2018 STIP/TIP Amendments

This item is taken up under New Business.

2. Activation of Nominating Committee

The Chairman announced that a Nominating Committee consisting of Kevin Lyden, Ron McDaniel, and Tom Sparkman has been activated by the Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers at the Annual Meeting in December.

B. Legislative Committee/Legislative Update

Mr. Grant stated he had agreed to Chair this year's Legislative Committee, and he requested volunteers to serve with him. Agreeing to serve on the Legislative Committee were Keith Hedrick, Mike Urgo, Danielle Chesebrough; and Sandra Allyn-Gauthier.

C. Tribal Liaison Representatives

Mr. Bunnell welcomed the new members to the SCCOG. He offered to provide assistance to the Legislative Committee. He provided an update on the Tribe's project in Athens, Greece.

Mr. Hayward also welcomed the new SCCOG members. He reported on the Tribal elections, and announced that the Tribe would host its annual holiday reception on December 10.

D. Military Command Representative

Captain Moore reported that he would host his holiday party on either December 11 or 18. He said that last week the SUBASE hosted Rear Admiral Charles Rock, Commander of Navy Region Mid-Atlantic. He also reported that he is looking into entering into lease arrangements with private entities to provide facilities and services to the SUBASE sailors and their families.

Captain Smith reported that Academy Superintendent, RADM William Kelley, sends his regrets but he is preparing for a meeting with the Academy's Board of Trustees. He said that Admiral Kelley did ask him to convey that it does not appear that local businesses offer incentives to the military and the Cadets at the Academy. Mention was made that the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern CT sponsors programs to benefit the military; the Executive Director stated that he would contact Chamber President Tony Sheridan on this issue.

E. Congressional Office Report

No report.

F. seCTer

Ms. Cowser reported that seCTer's Annual Meeting would be held tomorrow.

G. Eastern CT Tourism District

Mr. Dombroskas summarized the background and purpose of the Tourism District. He said each town is entitled to have one representative on the District's Board. He provided a history of the District's recent funding from the state, which was restored in June 2019, and which had to be expended by the end of that month. He referred to the difficulty the Board had in achieving a quorum, due to the fact that eleven towns in the District currently do not have appointees to the Board, and a quorum requires 1/3 of all members to be present. Mr. Dombroskas said that they are unable to move into planning for how FY 2020 funds will be used until the Board becomes more populated and quorums at meetings achieved. Mr. Hedrick asked the Executive Director to resend to all SCCOG CEOs the Tourism District information he had previously sent.

H. SEAT

Mr. Carroll stated ridership was staying strong; five replacement buses are in production and two additional have been requested; the website is being upgraded to add Trip-Planner; and reminded that the Board would be meeting immediately following the SCCOG meeting.

I. Regional Water Committee

Bob Congdon stated that the Eastern CT WUCC would meet on December 10th at the SCCOG office.

J. Regional Emergency Planning Team

The Chairman reported that the FY 2019 MOAs and resolutions have been emailed by DEMHS and are due back to SCCOG in early January.

K. Regional Human Services Coordinating Council

No report.

L. SE CT Cultural Coalition

Ms. Bury reported on the activities of the Cultural Coalition.

10. Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director reported on several financial matters from his written report to the Board: the Annual Audit will be completed and available for review by the Annual Meeting; staff has recently submitted two grant applications, one to USEPA for a grant to conduct brownfield assessment work at a site in Lisbon and the other for a Farm Viability Grant from the CT Department of Agriculture; working with SCCOG staff and the SCCOG's insurance agent, a proposed 18.4% increase in health insurance rates was mitigated to 6.3% by switching insurance provider which resulted in a reduction in dental insurance costs, and having employees pay 100% of their vision plan; CTDOT has notified the state's MPOs that FHWA has authorized use of FY 2016 Carryover Funds, making available to the SCCOG an additional $234,142 for use in FY 2020 and FY 2021.

11. Old Business

None.

12. New Business

A. FY 2018 STIP/TIP Amendments

- STPR, 0013-0089, CT 2, Bozrah, Rehab BR 06847 (culvert) over Polly Brook, **PD**, 2020, $450,000, New Project
- STPR, 0013-0089, CT 2, Bozrah, Rehab BR 06847 (culvert) over Polly Brook, **FD**, 2021, $300,000, New Project
- STPR, 0013-0089, CT 2, Bozrah, Rehab BR 06847 (culvert) over Polly Brook, **ROW**, 2021, $50,000, New Project
- STPR, 0013-0089, CT 2, Bozrah, Rehab BR 06847 (culvert) over Polly Brook, **CON**, FYI, $1,000,000, New Project

MOTION: To approve of the FY 2018 STIP/TIP Amendments (McDaniel, Grant). So voted unanimously.

13. Next Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2019, at Flanders Fish Market and Restaurant, with breakfast beginning at 8:00 a.m.

The Chairman said he would be inviting new SCCOG members to an orientation meeting sometime in December.

14. Adjournment:

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m. (Grant, Urgo). So voted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fred Allyn III, Secretary