SECHA Board of Directors Meeting
July 10, 2020
8:30 AM

Conducted by Zoom Conference
Join via Computer (preferred) URL: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87448174568
Join via Phone (alternate): 929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 874 4817 4568

Draft Minutes

Attending: Norton Wheeler, Pam Days-Luketich, John Bolduc, Bob Fusari, Mark Oefinger, Les King, Deb Monahan, Susy Hurlbert, Julie Savin. SCCOG: Amanda Kennedy, Carly Holzschuh. Guests: Melissa Kaplan-Macey (RPA), Kas Tebbetts (RPA).

1. Call to Order

   Mr. Wheeler called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

2. Approval May 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes

   MOTION: To approve the May 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Oefinger, Monahan). So voted unanimously.

3. Financial Report

   Ms. Kennedy presented that the budget is balanced for 2019-2020.

   MOTION: To accept the financial report (Fusari, Oefinger). So voted unanimously.

4. Fundraising

   Ms. Holzschuh presented that SECHA has raised $14,000 for calendar year 2020.

5. Guest Speaker: Melissa Kaplan-Macey, Regional Plan Association:

   Development of Affordable Housing Plan and Process Guidebook

   Ms. Kaplan-Macey, VP State Programs & CT Director of Regional Plan Association (RPA), presented on RPA's work with the CT Department of Housing on a guide for the development of affordable housing plans. Legislation 8-30j mandated that municipalities must create an affordable housing plan by 2022, but did not provide guidance on the contents of the plan. The guidebook is meant to create a framework for both community engagement and the plan itself.

Commission members discussed local hurdles to affordable housing development, such as developer costs arising from uncertainties in the development approval process when some measures are discretionary. Developers can still be unsuccessful even with extensive public outreach, and towns become known as being hostile to developing affordable housing. Local level advocacy was identified as being essential for establishing affordable housing commissions, as extensive state-level advocacy has not yet resulted in local regulatory changes.

6. SCCOG Activities

   Ms. Kennedy reported that the SCCOG has continued to partner with the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security on COVID-19 long-term recovery efforts. Next steps involve the formation of a working group on Health, Human Services, and Housing.

7. New Business

   No new business.

8. Next Meeting- September 11th

9. Adjournment

   Mr. Wheeler adjourned the meeting at 9:32.