

**PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION  
POCD REVISION SUBCOMMITTEE  
TOWN OF SCOTLAND  
P.O. Box 122, 9 Devotion Rd, Scotland, CT 06264  
Telephone: (860) 423-9634**

**OCTOBER 13, 2016 - SPECIAL MEETING  
7:00 PM – SCOTLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT  
47 BROOK ROAD, SCOTLAND, CT**

**Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order - Chairman Sears called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm
2. Roll Call-Introductions - In attendance: Marie Beck, James Dutrumb, John Filchak, Gary Greenberg, Brynn Lipstreu, Larry Miller, Jerry Nelson, George Perry, Peter Reardon and Wendy Sears.
3. Approval of the Minutes – Minutes submitted and posted as required
4. New Business – **Discussion of Revision Town of Scotland POCD**
  - A. Discussion on Chapter related to Education. The local Boards of Education have a tremendous amount of responsibility, which is reflected in the statutes in the State of CT. Future legislation is likely to reflect the need for Education as a piece of a city/town's POCD.
    - a. Mr Henrici and Dr Baran from PHMHS and Scotland Elementary, respectively, were unable to attend this meeting, but Chair Wendy Sears will follow up with both for discussion and input.
    - b. Slides presented indicated that all towns in the NE are losing population at about the same rate. The 2010 census that was conducted was wildly high in their projections of future population growth.
    - c. Gary Greenberg recommended that an addition to this chapter include the instability of the education system, and the perception of this instability within the community. As a member of the Zoning Board, our job is to ensure orderly development and protect property values, and the ongoing controversy regarding the high school has a lasting effect. It is a glaring issue and needs to be evident.
    - d. Peter Reardon stated that the town is evaluating and studying education models right now.
    - e. From a planning P.O.V., we need clear vision and completion of these studies so that we can move forward. A directive needs to be issued to the Boards of Education to resolve the uncertainty surrounding the school system, as the townspeople need to see it resolved.
    - f. The suggestion was made to have a liaison to the BOE from the Selectmen. There is already very good communication between the different groups, and Clare D'Appollonio is already present at most, if not all, BOE meetings. The concern though, is that these groups may not

be so cooperative at a later time, and would benefit from guidance regarding communication.

- g. John Filchak from NECCOG stated that the administrative costs were extremely high based on the state models.
- h. Gary stated that it is worth noting that our costs are disproportionately high and worth reviewing. Efficiencies should be looked at on paper, and an objective should be added to see how efficiencies can be achieved.
- i. Clare stated that when Scotland pulled their finances out of Central Office, the Town saved money.
- j. We could look at shared expenses with a broader group such as with 10 towns, as opposed to the tri-town region. There are many options that could be looked at.
- k. It was recommended that whatever choices we make, we do not want to adversely impact educational results.
- l. Recommendation was made to add under the section “dissemination of information”, update online infrastructure within town and school web presence. (resources and accomplishments should be more available)
- m. Also add under 8. (Under Objectives and Actions):
  - i. e. Review education models every 5 years
  - ii. f. Evaluate community needs
- n. The Town could see less dollars through recent legislation on state education choices (Moukawsher, September 2016)
- o. Recommendation made to combine (Under Objectives and Actions) 1.c., 3. And 9.
- p. The question was posed, “what are the needs/desires of the Board?” Brynn Lipstreu, a member of the Scotland Elementary BOE stated that more community involvement with the BOE, and more people coming to meetings would be a good start.
- q. Under the section discussing increasing communication and understanding:
  - i. Examine prospect of live streaming or recording town meetings/BOE meetings etc.
  - ii. Talk to Parish Hill film Dept to see if they have the ability to accomplish the filming and work with a local cable or radio channel to broadcast.
- r. Lisa LaBelle talked about the Mission Statement of the PHMHS PTO(A) regarding engagement of students with the community and the community with the students.

B. Next month’s meeting will discuss Economic Development and Tourism.

5. OLD Business – None.

6. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy Sears