

MINUTES
Council of Governments of the Central Naugatuck Valley
Diorio's Restaurant
231 Bank Street, Waterbury, CT
Friday, December 14, 2007, 12:00 Noon

COGCNV Members: Susan Cable, First Selectman, Beacon Falls; Jerry Sitko, Alternate, Cheshire; Thomas Gormley, First Selectman, Middlebury; Michael Bronko, Mayor, Naugatuck; Mary Ann Drayton-Rogers, First Selectman, Oxford; Robert Chatfield, First Selectman, Prospect; Mark Cooper, First Selectman, Southbury; Theresa Caldarone, Alternate, Waterbury; Charles Frigon, Town Manager, Watertown; Thomas Dunn, First Selectman, Wolcott; Paul Hinckley, First Selectman, Woodbury.

Speakers and Guests: Congressman Christopher Murphy; Lou Mangini, Office of Congresswoman Rosa Delauro; Robert Michalik, Office of Congressman Murphy; Dr. Georgina Scholl, CT Coalition to Eradicate Lyme Disease.

Staff: Peter Dorpalen, Executive Director; Virginia Mason, Assistant Director; Samuel Gold, Senior Planner; Joseph Perrelli, Regional Planner; Glenda Prentiss, GIS Coordinator; Jeffrey Cormier, Regional Planner/GIS Specialist; Selma Alves, Administrative Assistant.

1. Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Introductions, Public Comment

Chairman Susan Cable called the meeting to order at 12:09pm. Those present recited the pledge of allegiance, and the roll was called. New COGCNV members Mary Ann Drayton-Rogers from Oxford, Thomas Gormley from Middlebury, and Paul Hinckley from Woodbury were welcomed.

Under Public Comment, Georgina Scholl, from the CT Coalition to Eradicate Lyme Disease, discussed her organization and its cause. The CCELD seeks to raise awareness of efforts to curb the spread of lyme disease, while maintaining a sustainable deer population. Dr. Scholl shared research with the COGCNV, showing that conventional means of preventing lyme disease by limiting one's exposure to ticks have not reduced the number of incidents. She asked that the COGCNV offer their support for the organization and its approach to eradicating lyme disease. They plan to discuss their proposal with the Governor on January 24, 2008. To find out more about the CCELD, visit www.eradicate.lymedisease.org.

Thomas Gormley endorsed the work of the CCELD and added that Middlebury was pleased to endorse the organization. It was also noted that the group has endorsements from the town of Prospect and four other RPOs in the state.

2. Administrative Items

- a. Minutes of November 16, 2007 COGCNV meeting – On a motion by Robert Chatfield, seconded by Thomas Gormley, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the November 16, 2007, COGCNV meeting.

- b. Financial Report — Peter Dorpalen reported that, as of November 30, 2007, the Council was 42% through the fiscal year and had expended 31% of the \$810,376 operating budget. Of the total budgeted amount, which includes pass-through funds, 13% of the \$2,224,338 budget has been expended. The STIF account totaled \$94,131. The Webster Checking account balance was \$86,804. The STIF Reserve Fund had a balance of \$238,688.

Dorpalen noted that the checking account balance is not normally this high, but a check from DEMHS to the City of Waterbury that passed through needs to be reissued directly to the vendor. It will be issued during the next disbursement period. On a motion by Michael Bronko, seconded by Jerry Sitko, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the November 2007 financial report.

- c. COGCNV Dues — Peter Dorpalen recommended that the dues remain at a level of 42.7¢ per capita based on the 2004 population estimates from the Connecticut Department of Health. If the 2006 estimates were used, the overall regional increase would be \$384 with the changes in individual town dues varying from reduction of \$441 to an increase of \$521. On a motion by Charles Frigon, seconded by Paul Hinckley, it was unanimously

VOTED: To set the FY2008-09 COGCNV municipal contributions at 42.7¢ per capita based on

the 2004 population estimates from the Connecticut Department of Health.

- d. Household Hazardous Waste Administration Fee — COGCNV has not increased its administrative fee for the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program since FY 2002-2003, keeping it at \$10,110 with a slight increase for FY08 to reflect the addition of Middlebury. It has not been raised since COG started charging the fee. The program ran into a deficit the last four years, so staff proposes to increase fees to reflect present costs. A table of the revised fees was included in *Memorandum 120707H*. On a motion by Paul Hinckley, seconded by Thomas Gormley, it was unanimously

VOTED: To increase the HHW Program dues to \$12,000 for FY2008-09 with municipal dues based on 2006 population estimates, as presented in Memorandum 120707H.

- e. Office Lease – Peter Dorpalen recommended a second one-year extension of COGCNV’s lease. The current price is \$3,600 per month. This will go up 3% to about \$3,740. Two one-year lease extensions are permitted under the terms of the original three-year lease. On a motion by Paul Hinckley, seconded by Charles Frigon, it was unanimously

VOTED: To extend the COGCNV’s lease of office space for one year.

- f. Correspondence — Peter Dorpalen summarized recent correspondence:

December 6, 2007 Letter from Coalition to Eradicate Lyme Disease, requesting a vote form COGCNV to support a letter to be sent to Gov. Rell on the need to pay attention to the rising incidence of lyme disease in Connecticut.

December 7, 2007 Invoice from Naugatuck Valley Community College regarding Municipal Training Academy dues with town-by-town breakdown.

On a motion by Thomas Gormley, seconded by Michael Bronko, it was unanimously

VOTED: To endorse the positions of the CT Coalition to Eradicate Lyme Disease and its efforts to reduce the rising deer tick population.

- 3. **Emergency Planning** — Virginia Mason gave an update on DEMHS Region 5 emergency planning.
 - a. Consultant Selection Status — Received two responses to the RFP to do the SWOT analysis and spending plan for the region. We hope to have a consultant selected by January.
 - b. Resource Typing — Region 5 RPO staff was trained last week in the tools that are available for performing resource typing. COGCNV staff will be working with local EMDs on collecting data for the CNVR.
- 4. **NVCC Municipal Government Training Program**
 - a. Upcoming Courses — Paul Hinckley reported that the course, Supervisory Skills I, will be repeated, and Supervisory Skills II will be added, as well as, a course on running effective meetings for chairmen who volunteer on local boards and commissions. A course for clerks recording meetings has several sessions.
 - b. OPM Grant Application Update — The COGCNV’s grant application was submitted at the end of last month. Copies were sent to the CEO of each member town. The region’s application needs the support of legislative bodies in each town by December 31. So far, Prospect, Waterbury, Wolcott, and Woodbury have voted to endorse the application.
- 5. **Project Updates**
 - a. GIS Parcel Mapping Project — Three sets of qualifications have been received and are being reviewed by a selection committee. Interviews will begin on January 3, 2008.
 - b. Regional Plan of Conservation and Development — COGCNV staff has presented the draft plan to more than half of the 13 towns. Public notice should go out by the end of the month, starting the public comment period.

- c. Pre-disaster Mitigation Plans — Waterbury adopted its plan on December 10. Cheshire's plan is being reviewed by FEMA. Comments are expected from Wolcott and Prospect on the changes that they want to see in their draft plans before they are submitted. COGCNV staff will meet with officials in the remaining six towns in January to discuss their areas of concern.
6. **Congressional Perspective** — Congressman Christopher Murphy spoke about the most recent federal budget bill and the accompanying spending package. He took questions from those in attendance.
7. **Regional Business**
 - a. Annual Legislative Statement — Peter Dorpalen introduced the COGCNV's annual legislative position statement, which acts as a continuation of prior statements. COGCNV members decided to submit the list of legislative priorities to local legislators.
8. **Other**
 - a. *A Profile of the CNVR: 2007* — Peter Dorpalen presented the 2007 edition of the CNVR report, prepared by Selma Alves. The report details demographic, economic, and housing characteristics in the region. On a motion by Robert Chatfield, seconded by Paul Hinckley, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve *A Profile of the CNVR: 2007*.
 - b. DECD Economic Strategic Plan — The new DECD Commissioner is holding a series of regional forums on the economic and strategic plan. A regional forum/listening session will be held in Waterbury at NVCC on January 3, 2008 from 5-7 p.m.
9. Adjournment) At 12:35 pm, on a motion by Thomas Dunn, seconded by Mary Ann Drayton-Rogers, it was unanimously

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Joseph Perrelli
Regional Planner

for

Michael Bronko
Secretary