

Commission on Connecticut's Development and Future

Regular Commission Meeting

Monday, April 4, 2022

3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Meeting held in the Legislative Office Building Room 1D and via Zoom

In attendance: Representative Jason Rojas, Representative Cristin McCarthy Vahey, Senator Christine Cohen, Representative Zullo, Senator Tony Hwang, Timothy Hollister, Erin Kemple, David Barkin, Kiley Gosselin, Donna Hamzy, Anika Singh Lemar, Francis Pickering, Gregory Ugalde, Alexandra Daum, Jennifer Perry, Martin Heft (not a voting member)

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:02pm by Rep. Rojas

II. Attendance

Erica Byrne reported that we have 12 members present, lacking a quorum

III. Approval of February 4, 2022 minutes

Given lack of a quorum, no action was taken on the minutes at the start of the meeting.

IV. Working Group Reports

Martin Heft called on each working group for remarks.

a. Report of Co-Chairs

i. State and Municipal Reporting

Erin Kemple reported that the working group met on March 3rd. The Committee received a presentation on the POCD from OPM, including the legislative history of the plan. How prescriptive the POCD should be? What happens when planning documents conflict?

ii. Model Code

David Barkin reported that the inaugural meeting is this Thursday. Rep. Zullo added that the Working Group plans to be aggressive with future meetings.

iii. Consolidated Housing Plan

Kiley Gosselin noted that they had their first meeting on March 24, with a review of their charge and a presentation from DOH on the plan. The next meeting will get in to more specifics.

iv. Municipal Affordable Housing Plans

Tim Hollister reported that the group has met 3 times so far. The group has decided to embrace the timing issues of their report to review the Affordable Housing Plans that have already been filed and are working to build on the guidance documents that have already been developed incorporating the changes to land use law that happened last session. Anika Lemar mentioned that other states also work on these issues, and we should look at how other states evaluate and handle affordable housing plans. It was noted that looking

at how other states approach these issues is something a number of the working groups are also looking at.

Tim Hollister said one of the challenges is coming up with a statewide registry, but that its an administrative workload because these need to continue to be updated. Rep Rojas suggested that maybe its something the COGs could help with. Martin Heft noted that the legislation calls for OPM to post them. Francis Pickering noted that Western Council of Governments produced a draft plan for their region that they expect a number of towns to adopt.

v. Sewerage

Donna Hamzy noted that the group met once and plans to meet more often as they work to determine how infrastructure impacts economic development.

V. Business

Rep. Rojas thanked every member of the Commission for their work. He noted that the next full meeting is June 6th.

Tim Hollister asked if there was a vision as to whether there would be one report from the Commission, or each working group would issue its own report. Mr. Heft said that was something we still needed to decide. Rep. Rojas suggested that we should aspire to one report, but that each working group may work at different paces.

Mr. Heft noted that the Committee now has a quorum and asked that they return to the meeting minutes. Rep. Rojas asked for a motion to approve minutes.

Moved by David Barkin, second by Donna Hamzy.

Sen. Hwang asked for a point of clarification that it was his hope at the last meeting that we would create a new working group on Transit Oriented Development. And that if one was created he would be willing to serve as a co-chair.

Mr. Heft noted a typo in Alexandra's name.

Minutes approved by a voice vote.

VI. Public Comment

Rep. McCarthy Vahey pointed out that information is available on the website to follow along with the work of the meetings, and that recordings of meetings are online. And that members of the public can reach out to the Planning and Development Committee.

There was no public comment offered.

VII. Adjournment

Rep. Rojas adjourned the meeting at 3:35pm.