

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, August 19, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Town Hall Meeting Room
11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT. 06016

In-person meeting

AND

Meeting also available via remote ZOOM Teleconference

Meeting ID: 332 683 3563

Passcode: townhall

Meeting Minutes

**** These Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting****

Board of Selectmen:

Jason E. Bowsza, First Selectman

Marie DeSousa, Deputy First Selectman

Alan Baker, Selectman

Sarah Muska, Selectman

Charlie Nordell, Selectman

ATTENDANCE: First Selectmen Bowsza hosted the in-person meeting. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska, and Selectman Nordell were present in-person this evening.

ABSENT: All Selectmen were present this evening.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS: Michael Speciale and Dulcie Giadone, of the Connecticut Trolley Museum.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS signing in to teleconference remotely for the Town Meeting: Ruth Anne and Tom Lansner, Noreen, Christine Rodrigue, Frances Neill.

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1. TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:

First Selectman Bowsza called the August 19, 2021 Regular Meeting of the East Windsor Board of Selectmen to Order at 7:03 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

First Selectman Bowsza requested Selectman Nordell lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ATTENDANCE:

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board has established a quorum with five members present in person.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

A. August 5, 2021 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Minutes:

Closing information for the August 5, 2021 meeting had been incomplete as the audio of the video malfunctioned when the Board returned from Executive Session. The Board recalled the closing actions, and made the following motion.

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting dated August 5, 2021 as amended:
Page 17, after “LET THE RECORD SHOW the Recording Secretary left the in-person meeting at 8:20” the Board returned from Executive Session at 9:47 p.m. and took the following action: MOTION to ACCEPT the tax settlement between the Town of East Windsor and New Construction, LLC., motion made by Selectman Baker, seconded by Selectmen Muska, and approved unanimously.

DeSousa moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None.

VOTE: In Favor: Bowsza/DeSousa/Baker/Muska/Nordell
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

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First Selectman Bowsza announced the first opportunity for the public to speak. He opened discussion to those individuals assembled in person at the Town Hall, and then to those individuals signed in remotely. No one gathered in-person, or those signed in remotely, requested to speak.

6. COMMUNICATIONS: None.

7. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

A. Resignations:

1. Sarah Andrews, Board of Education.

First Selectman Bowsza noted the receipt of the resignation of Sarah Andrews from the Board of Education.

MOTION: To ACCEPT the resignation of Sarah Andrews from the Board of Education, with regret.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: Deputy First Selectman DeSousa suggested whatever she decides to do in the future she'll do it as well as she did for the Board of Education.

**VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous
(No one opposed/No Abstentions)**

B. Reappointments: None.

C. New Appointments: None.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

***A. South Road Ownership Option Update:**

Any starred (*) items will not be discussed but will remain on the agenda pending receipt of additional information.

***B. Polling Location Changes:**

Any starred (*) items will not be discussed but will remain on the agenda pending receipt of additional information.

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***C. Broad Brook Mill Update:**

Any starred (*) items will not be discussed but will remain on the agenda pending receipt of additional information.

D. E. R. A. S. E. Grant Update:

First Selectman Bowsza introduced George Krivda, Jr., who is the consultant managing the E.R.A.S.E. Grant applications. Mr. Krivda joined the Board in-person.

Mr. Krivda reported he has completed review of 76 grant applications; the total grant funding requested through those 76 applications totals \$733,600* (See additional discussion below). In addition, Mr. Krivda continues to acquire additional information on 33 incomplete applications. Mr. Krivda suggested he is approximately 70% into his application review process.

First Selectman Bowsza reported he met recently with Mr. Krivda and his assistant to discuss the Board's consideration of the applications. First Selectman Bowsza opened discussion with the Board on the following policy issues:

- **How does the Board want to handle applications which were received after the submission deadline?** Mr. Krivda informed the Board the submission(s) were made only minutes after the deadline. The consensus of the Board was to accept the applications submitted after the deadline. Mr. Krivda confirmed the total number of applications received was the 109 applications.
- **Funding allocation:** First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board had previously allocated \$900,000 to fund the E.R.A.S.E. Grant Program. If all 109 applications were funded to the full \$10,000 level, the requests would exceed the current funding allocation. The Board has the following options: Increase the funding allocation, or pro-rate the funding. He opened discussion to the Board.

Selectman Nordell thought there were several applications which didn't request the full \$10,000; First Selectman Bowsza indicated Selectman Nordell was correct. Mr. Krivda noted it equated to a \$23,000 difference.

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Deputy First Selectman DeSousa felt the Board had set the original \$900,000 based on the amount received from the Federal Government. First Selectman Bowsza recalled that originally \$1.85 million had been thought to be coming to East Windsor for this program. This Board subsequently allocated \$900,000 for the E.R.A.S.E. Grant Program, and set aside the additional funding for a water project for a community well that's failing. Subsequently, it was determined that East Windsor's funding assistance from the Federal Government was \$3.4 million; \$1.7 million is to be provided to the Town now, while the remaining \$1.7 million will be made in 2022. The Board has until 2024 to commit the funds, and until 2026 to spend the funds. First Selectman Bowsza indicated the funding can be spent only on the following five (5) categories:

- Small business, non-profits, and household assistance
- Tourism
- Sewer, water, and broad-band
- Hazard pay for front-line employees
- Revenue recapture for municipalities

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Town has a radio system which is significantly past its useful life; he's hoping that this program could include the replacement of the existing system but is waiting for more information.

First Selectman Bowsza suggested to fund the program to the capacity to award all grant requests the Board would have to consider increasing the total grant allocation to \$1,070,000 million plus the additional funding for staff administration. *Discussion continued which clarified the \$733,600 referenced by Mr. Krivda in his opening discussion becomes \$760,000, plus administration costs for the total of \$1,090,000.

First Selectman Bowsza asked the Board for their preference to allocation the additional funding, or pro-rate the application awards?

Deputy First Selectman DeSousa questioned if increasing the E.R.A.S.E. funding by the \$200,000 would still allow money for the water project, and the radio system? First Selectman Bowsza replied yes, unless the radio system is a significant cost. First Selectman Bowsza reviewed the status of researching the cost of a new radio system and the best approach to implementing the system; he noted the Town also has bond capacity if necessary.

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MOTION: To INCREASE the \$900,000 allocated to the E.R.A.S.E. Grant program by \$200,000 plus staff time.

DeSousa moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: Bowsza/Baker/DeSousa/Muska/Nordell
(No one opposed/No Abstentions)

Selectman Baker cited the intent of the Board was to help as many people as possible; he felt this is the best way to go.

- **Submission of multiple applications:** First Selectman Bowsza indicated that there were a couple of submissions for multiple applications. Mr. Krivda suggested the applications are for different business entities which may have been created for different reasons. The submissions are not for franchise operations. The submissions were made by the same person but come from different addresses. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa cited she knows of an instance where there are two businesses operating from the same address but one is operated by the husband and the second is operated by the wife. If they were operating as separate legal entities she didn't see why they wouldn't qualify.

The consensus of the Board was to accept the multiple applications.

- **Extent of outreach efforts:** First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board has tried to empower people and get this money to the non-profits and businesses that were impacted by the pandemic. He noted Mr. Krivda has spent a lot of time doing outreach to follow up on information to further valid the applications submitted. He queried the Board at what point are we going to say this is your last opportunity to get the information in so we can start issuing some checks?

Discussion followed regarding the Board's original program application period; First Selectman Bowsza noted there is additional work Mr. Krivda and the Board needs to do to get the money in the hands of the recipients after the conclusion of the original timeframe. Selectman Baker cited the need to allow Mr. Krivda time to notify the applicants; First Selectman Bowsza felt with full funding the Board could do an initial approval run September 2nd and follow up as necessary. Mr. Krivda indicated he intended to meet the board's commitment to complete the review by Labor Day; if there are still applications outstanding by that time it will be because there was no cooperation on the part of the applicant, not that efforts weren't made to include them in the program. Selectman Nordell questioned an

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example of a situation where the request for information would take longer than 30 days to provide? Mr. Krivda explained his process for review of the applications, and his outreach process. Mr. Krivda suggested there was a lot of damage done to businesses and non-profits during the pandemic, and it's still going on.

The consensus of the Board was to defer approval until the September 2nd Board of Selectmen meeting.

- **Tax delinquencies:** First Selectman Bowsza recalled when first considering this program the Board decided if the pandemic was one of the reasons a business hadn't met their tax obligations we didn't want that to disqualify them from consideration. He has asked the Tax Collector to review current, and historic, delinquencies. First Selectman Bowsza recalled originally the Board had decided not to include tax delinquency as a consideration for awarding grants; do we want to continue with that premise?

Selectman Baker cited this is Federal money given to the Town to award for the reasons listed; he felt this goes beyond the tax issue. Maybe a business would be more likely to pay the taxes if they receive assistance; he felt the tax delinquencies and the grant requests were separate issues. He preferred continuing with the Board's original decision. Selectman Nordell cited it might be a consideration if it were a long-term delinquency. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa cited her previous experience serving on a board when some businesses were delinquent for several years, and were subsequently removed from the list of tax obligations. However, she agreed with Selectman Baker, the tax delinquency wasn't on the list of Federal criteria, and she hadn't considered that the business might use the grant money to pay their taxes. Selectman Baker also noted the current Tax Collector doesn't let delinquencies get that far in arrears.

The consensus of the Board was to not consider tax delinquencies as a disqualifying factor in grant submissions.

First Selectman Bowsza noted the time and requested a motion to recess the Board of Selectmen' meeting and convene the Town Meeting.

**MOTION: To RECESS the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting and
CONVENE the Town Meeting at 7:31 p.m.**

Nordell moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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**VOTE: In Favor: Bowsza/DeSousa/Baker/Muska/Nordell
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

First Selectman Bowsza RECONVENED the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 7:45 p.m.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Connecticut Trolley Museum Presentation to Include Gina Alimberti:

Joining the Board in-person were Michael Speciale, Chairman of the Development Committee for the Connecticut Trolley Museum, and Dulcie Giadone, Grant Administrator.

Mr. Speciale introduced himself and Mrs. Giadone, noting both are members of the Development Committee for the Connecticut Trolley Museum. He apologized that Executive Director Alimberti was unable to attend this presentation due to a scheduling conflict. Mr. Speciale noted he is the Chairman of the Development Committee, and a volunteer, while Dulcie Giadone, who is also a volunteer, is the Grant Administrator; he noted she has a very successful track record raising funds. Mr. Speciale noted they've been working together at the Trolley Museum for the past five years. He suggested the Development Committee is working to transform the Trolley Museum, as he'll explain in the presentation.

Mr. Speciale noted that the Trolley Museum has been a mainstay in East Windsor since 1940; the Trolley Museum is celebrating its 81st anniversary this year. Mr. Speciale suggested the goal is to take an 81 year old cultural and historic asset in East Windsor and transform it into one of New England's great living history museum like Sturbridge Village, Mystic Seaport, and Plymouth Plantation. The goal is to be a great, outstanding living history museum and major tourist attraction for New England and beyond.

Mr. Speciale reported the Trolley Museum has six components they are currently working on, which include:

- repair/replacement of the rail line
- renovation of the Visitor Center
- continuing trolley car maintenance and restoration
- upgrading the grounds
- updating the organizational structure of the Museum Board

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➤ creating the visitor experience

Mr. Speciale noted the Trolley Museum owns 1 ½ miles of rail line and includes a 17 acre campus. The rail line operates on the original line owned and operated by the Hartford & Springfield Railway. Mr. Speciale cited the Museum needs to replace the poles and ties along the line, as it hasn't had the resources to keep that work up on an annual basis.

Mr. Speciale noted the Visitor Center was built in the 1980s; the gift shop and lobby need renovations. Mrs. Giadone acquired a grant to turn the auditorium into a conference center and business meeting area, as well as an area to hold birthday parties and educational events.

The 17 acre campus needs landscaping enhancements. Mr. Speciale noted they've just completed a study to determine drainage improvements; that study will enable the Trolley Museum to put in a paved parking lot which will allow them to operate all year.

Regarding the organizational structure, Mr. Speciale noted the Trolley Museum was started by a group of trolley enthusiasts who knew a lot about trolley car history and operating the trolley cars, but it was somewhat of a club. Mr. Speciale suggested they've changed the way they operate as they want to be as effective and efficient as the best non-profit organizations. To achieve the goal of creating a living history museum they've hired an Executive Director, and changed the bylaws, and have added members to the Board of Directors who are people who know how to raise the money necessary to achieve the Museum's goals.

Mr. Speciale suggested the most important thing is the visitor experience. To enhance the visitor experience the Museum needs to have its infrastructure in place. They plan to have trained docents to interact with the visitors, historic re-enactors, good professional exhibits, and an education director to develop programs. The goal is to capture the experience of the trolley era.

Mr. Speciale suggested they are currently building a constituency of individuals who are able to provide resources; they're talking to State and Federal officials, private organizations and corporations.

Mr. Speciale noted recent achievements of the Trolley Museum include the first paved walkway for guests visiting the Museum and Visitor Center. The Isle of

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Safety, which originally stood in downtown Hartford from 1912 to the 1970s and now graces the entrance to the Museum grounds, has been restored. Mrs. Giadone has raised \$200,000 in grants for special projects, and they have a good, strong annual giving program.

Mr. Speciale offered a brochure summarizing the Transformation Plan for the Trolley Museum (See Attachment A), and thanked the Board for their time.

First Selectman Bowsza asked Mr. Speciale how the Town can help? Mr. Speciale suggested that the Trolley Museum is unknown to a larger group of potential funding sources because the volunteers were busy working on track and car restoration. He and Mrs. Giadone brought the knowledge of who supports these organizations to the Museum. Mr. Speciale noted when he came to the Trolley Museum in 1986 the organization had \$1,600 in the bank and was thousands of dollars in debt, and had a building that was inadequate, but it was this great gem with such potential. Mr. Speciale felt he was good at getting people to join the cause; he indicated he has been working with First Selectman Bowsza who understands what the Trolley Museum is trying to do. The Trolley Museum is pursuing State of Connecticut and Federal funding. Mr. Speciale indicated he and Mrs. Giadone will be establishing relationships with larger foundations. The goal is to create this great living history museum. Mr. Speciale suggested history is important. He hopes the Town appreciates the value of the Trolley Museum in town; he suggested it's languished too long because the volunteers were doing the work themselves.

First Selectman Bowsza suggested Mr. Speciale is looking for the Board to be ambassadors for the Trolley Museum? Mr. Speciale concurred, noting the Trolley Museum is a great asset to the Town. He noted the tracks run along a spur of a trolley company that ran from Hartford to Springfield; the spur ran from where Maine Fish is today to Rockville. He noted the average age of the trolleys in the fleet is 104 years old, while the oldest is 119. He suggested it's wonderful to ride in a vehicle of that age and experience the history. East Windsor can be the home of a museum on a par with Sturbridge Village, Mystic Seaport, or Plymouth Plantation.

Selectman Baker questioned if the line extends to the amusement park operated by the original trolley company? Mr. Speciale suggested if the Trolley Museum can extend the line they can develop a walking trail in the area. He noted an event planned for September 4th – "Everything that Runs"; he encouraged the Board to attend. Mr. Speciale cited Executive Director Alimberti does a

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wonderful job developing the events. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa suggested it's been noticed that the grounds have been cleaned up.

Mr. Speciale cited his past experience with the Air Museum, noting it took him 29 years to develop that organization into the experience it is today. His current goal is to make the Trolley Museum a living history experience for East Windsor.

First Selectman Bowsza thanked Mr. Speciale and Mrs. Giadone for their presentation.

B. Tax Refunds:

MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds in the amount of \$1,430.13.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: In Favor: Bowsza/DeSousa/Baker/Muska/Nordell
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

10. SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/:

A. Jason Bowsza:

(See Attachment B)

B. Marie DeSousa:

(See Attachment C)

C. Charlie Nordell:

(See Attachment D)

D. Alan Baker:

Selectman Baker noted he reviewed the Minutes of the Planning and Zoning Commission's (PZC) recent minutes, which reflected the following:

- The PZC elected a new slate of officers since the resignation of Joe Ouellette who served as Chairman for at least a decade. Anne Gobin is the new Chairman.

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- Joe Sauerhoefer, of DPW, has been approved as a new member.
- While the Commission currently has no new applications before them they did discuss ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units, formally Accessory Apartments), and the new retail marijuana law. Discussion on both issues will continue at the Commission's next meeting.

Selectman Baker reported he attended the Broad Brook Fire Department Commission Meeting. They discussed:

- The recent fire call in Warehouse Point, and acknowledged a letter sent to the department from Chief Barton of the Warehouse Point Fire Department
- The call to rescue a person who suffered an accident on his ATV while riding the vehicle off Plantation Road. It was a complex and technical rescue, requiring 2 or more hours of department involvement.
- The report of the Town Fire Marshal regarding inspection,
- Continued discussion regarding shared expenses for the Town Fire Marshal, including use of a Town vehicle while working on both sides of town.
- Reported on the status of the vehicle replacement committee regarding the 20 year old tanker.

E. Sarah Muska:

(See Attachment E)

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

First Selectman Bowsza noted a second opportunity for the public to speak. He queried the in-person attendees, and those signed in remotely, for comments. No one requested to speak.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION/Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 1-200 (6)(b), negotiations, (6)(e) discussion of any matter which would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein described in subsection (b) of section 1-210. –

Action is possible:

MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:17 p.m. Attending the Executive Session were First Selectman Bowsza, Deputy First Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska, and Selectman Nordell.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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VOTE: **In Favor: Bowsza/DeSousa/Baker/Muska/Nordell
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

LET THE RECORD SHOW the Recording Secretary left the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:49 p.m. First Selectman Bowsza noted there was no other business to come before the Board this evening. He requested a motion to adjourn.

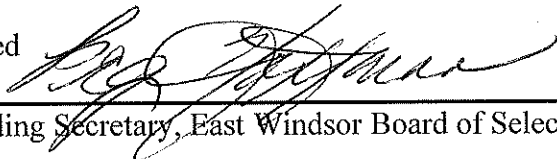
13. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Nordell moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted



Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

ATTACHMENTS:

- A – The Connecticut Electric Railway Association, Inc (Trolley Museum) Transformation Plan
 - B - Selectman's Report – First Selectman Bowsza
 - C - Selectman's Report – Deputy First Selectman DeSousa
 - D - Selectman's Report - Selectman Nordell
 - G - Selectman's Report - Selectman Muska
- (Selectman Baker's Report is included in the Meeting transcription)

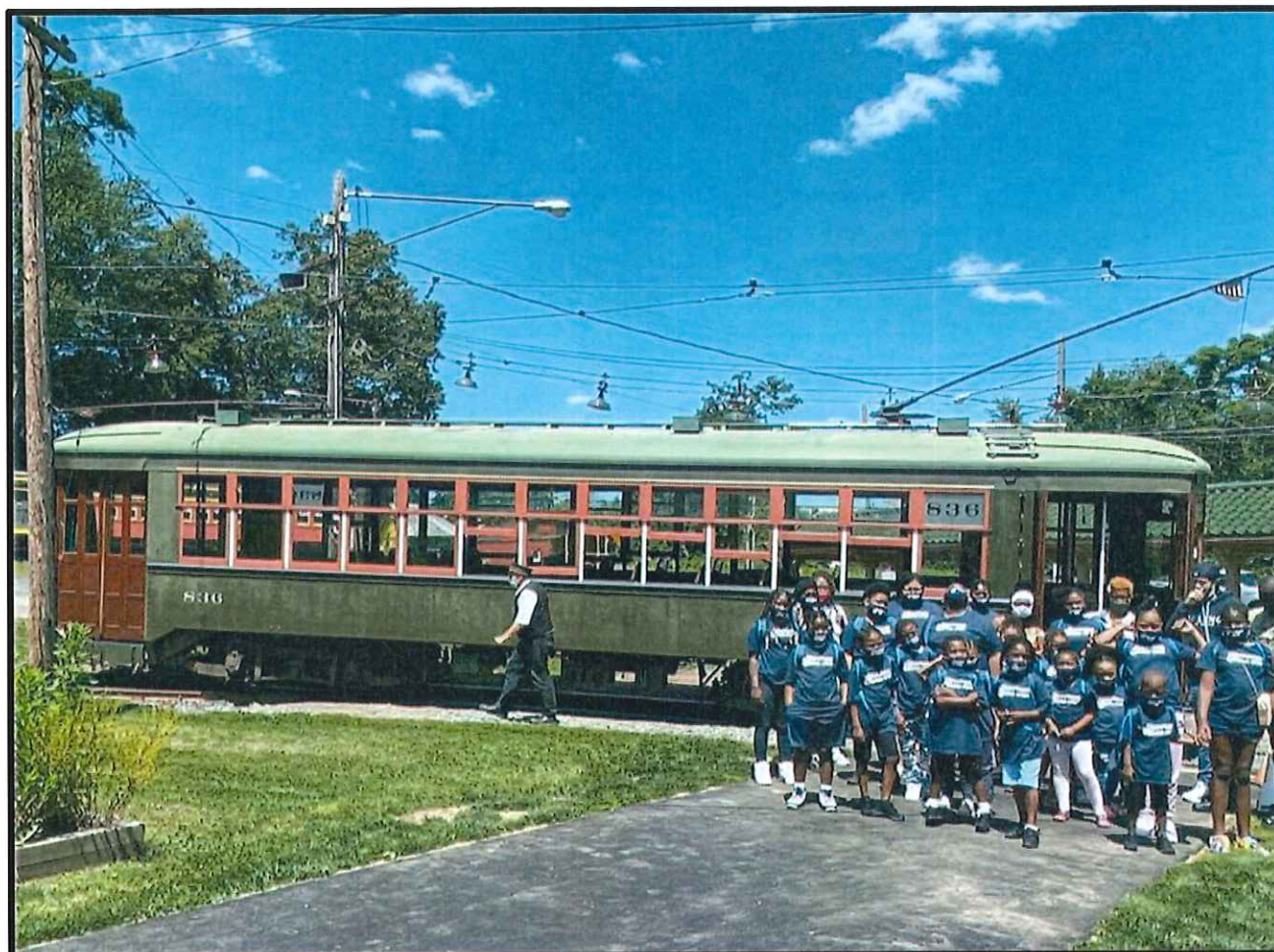
Box 8/19/2021 Attachment A



The Connecticut Electric Railway Association, Inc.
58 North Road, P.O. Box 360
East Windsor, Connecticut 06088-0360
Office: 860-627-6540 Fax: 860-627-6510



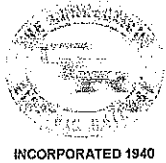
TRANSFORMATION PLAN



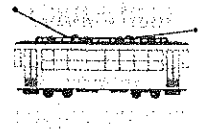
www.ct-trolley.org

Email: office@ct-trolley.org

A 501(C)(3) Non-Profit Historical And Educational Museum Of Operating Electric Traction.



The Connecticut Electric Railway Association, Inc.
58 North Road, P.O. Box 360
East Windsor, Connecticut 06088-0360
Office: 860-627-6540 Fax: 860-627-6510



Connecticut Trolley Museum August 2021

THE GOAL

To take an existing 81 year old cultural and historic asset and to totally transform it into one of New England's great living history museums similar to Old Sturbridge Village, Plymouth Plantation and Mystic Seaport

AREAS TO BE ADDRESSED

1. The Railway
2. The Visitor Center
3. The Grounds
4. The Organizational Structure
5. Trolley Car Maintenance and Restoration
6. The Visitor Experience

The Railway

It consists of more than 1.5 miles of track and ballast along the main line and sidings. There are nearly 8,000 ties supporting the track. There are more than 130 poles, wire and hardware to provide the power to operate the trolleys. Much of this equipment and material needs to be replaced due to age and wear and tear.

The Visitor Center

Built in the 1980's it is in need of a makeover. The lobby and gift shop need to be re-configured; plumbing and lighting efficiencies are needed; a general cosmetic makeover is required; and the auditorium needs to be renovated to be able to better support a variety of activities and programs for the public.

The Grounds

The 17 acre main campus should be landscaped. A paved parking lot, along with a proper drainage system is required for both the sake of appearance and visitor convenience.

The Organizational Structure

The proper structure is needed for operational efficiency, good management, strategic planning, financial stability and more.

Trolley Car Maintenance and Restoration

The existing Restoration Barn is woefully inadequate. It has limited capacity and cannot be properly heated which impacts the ability to recruit the skilled volunteers needed to keep things moving at a proper pace and so it needs to be replaced if the Museum is to keep its trolleys in peak operating condition.

The Visitor Experience

A great living history museum will have trained docents, historical re-enactors professionally built exhibits that are engaging and a variety of formal and informal educational programs. This requires a Visitor Services or an Education Department with staff, something that the Museum does not have right now

What The Museum Needs To Do To Achieve Its Goal

To create a constituency to advocate for the Museum and to enlist the financial and in-kind supporters who embrace the goal that has been set forth. The Museum's Development Team is doing just that, identifying key potential supporters from the private, corporate and government sectors. This will be a multi-million dollar makeover but a great deal of the initial groundwork has already been done. Wish us well, if you would, and think about how you could participate in this effort.

A Footnote:

Much has been accomplished over the past three years and the pace of the work has been accelerating.

- A full time paid executive director has been hired
- the bylaws were revised from those that were adopted when the Museum was just a club
- new directors have been added to the Board who bring with them a wealth of knowledge to help the Museum move forward
- the first ever paved walkways were just installed
- the first ever professionally built exhibit (on local trolley history) is about to be installed just this year
- many new power poles and ties have been installed just this year
- the historic Isle of Safety structure at the entrance to the Museum's grounds was restored
- a strong Development Committee was organized and it has created a formalized annual giving program supplement the operating budget
- nearly \$200,000 in grant awards have been received to support a number of special projects such as the purchase of safety equipment, electrical upgrades, trolley car restoration and more.

A Footnote to the Footnote:

The average age of the trolleys in the operating fleet is 104 years old!

BB 8/19/2021 Attachment B

First Selectmen's Report – August 19, 2021

Effective August 20, the Town of East Windsor will have a mask mandate for any indoor facility where the public may frequent. The only exceptions to this will be children under two years old, anyone who is eating or drinking, and anyone with a valid written exemption from a doctor. This mandate is being issued as part of a regional collaborative effort that includes towns within our regional council of governments. Area town leaders have had discussions about implementation, and we agree that the best approach to this would be for the governor to issue one state-wide policy. Absent that, we believe we can better protect public health and economic well-being among people and businesses in our community by acting regionally.

Our goals are simple: ensure that children can go to school in person this year and ensure that additional sector mandates or capacity limits will not be necessary. We saw the detrimental effects of those restrictions on children and businesses last year, and we do not want to revisit them again. The COVID variant is particularly dangerous to the unvaccinated, many of whom may be children. The best ways to protect against the variant is to respect social distancing, wear a mask, and get vaccinated when you are able.

We are grateful to State Representative Jaime Foster for her work in securing state bond funding to replace the spillways at East Windsor Park and at the base of Highland Avenue. These projects both need to be done and would otherwise have cost the Town of East Windsor more than \$1.1 million.

On August 11, I had a video conference with representatives from Metro Hartford Alliance to discuss economic development opportunities. Next month, I will be hosting the representatives on a tour of East Windsor to showcase properties that may be developed or redeveloped. I would welcome suggestions on parcels to showcase.

On August 12, I had the good fortune of visiting with Nancy Masters to discuss the good work being done at Scout Hall and at the Museums on the Green. Mrs. Masters always offers insight into ways the Town can support these two great nonprofits in our community. Later that same day, I visited with Lois Hiller at the Warehouse Point Library to discuss the improvements that they have made during the pandemic as well as to talk about their exciting future plans.

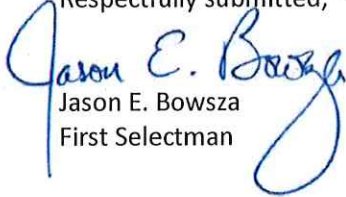
On August 17, our ERASE COVID grant coordinator provided me with an update on the review process for the nearly 110 applications received from small businesses and nonprofits in the community. We continue to make good progress towards the goal of distributing grant funding to qualified applicants on or about Labor Day.

On August 18, Melissa Maltese and I joined State Representative Jaime Foster for a tour with the executive director of the Ellington YMCA, Dave Corricelli. The visit was a productive one, and we're hoping to be able to take advantage of some of their amenities to enhance programming options for East Windsor senior citizens in the near future.

This coming Saturday, the Broad Brook Fire Department will be celebrating their 125th anniversary with a parade, food trucks, and fireworks display. The event kicks off at 5pm, traveling up Main Street (BB), up Windsorville Road, and along Reservoir Avenue to the East Windsor Park. The fireworks display is scheduled for 9pm.

The waterfront at East Windsor Park will close for the season on Sunday, and the splash pad will have a school-adjusted schedule starting next week and running through Labor Day. The adjusted hours will be from 3pm to 6pm. We have three summer concerts still planned. Shaded Soule will be playing at 6:30p on August 26th, Ashley Cruz will be playing at 6pm on September 2nd, and Leaf Jumpers will be playing at 6pm on September 9th. It has been a very successful concert season, and we look forward to building on it next year.

Respectfully submitted,


Jason E. Bowsza
First Selectman

BPS 8/19/2021 Attachment C

Deputy First Selectman Liaison Report

August 19, 2021

I first want to start off by expressing my pleasure that we can meet in public if we choose or via zoom if we choose. Unfortunately, a choice is not always available so please self-reflect on the crisis in Afghanistan. With all our faults here in the United States and our dislike for policies set by others we still have choices. I choose to put humanity first. We are better united for our future so don't hesitate to reach out to others in need. A simple hello, holding of a door or offering to help someone less fortunate then you can make a difference. I want to thank all our military members for their sacrifices for my freedoms and yours.


On August 11, 2021 I attended the presentation given by our Town Assessor Helen Totz at the Senior Center regarding available Tax Relief Programs in East Windsor. A valuable handout was available to take after the presentation.

August 12, 2021 I attended the National Park Service – Rivers, Trail and Conservation Assistance Program in the absence of our First Selectmen Jason Bowsza. Representatives from East Longmeadow, Ma, Enfield and East Windsor, CT along with Stephanie Stroud, Community Planner for the National Park Service were in attendance. Discussion took place regarding the East Longmeadow, MA Redstone Rail Trail process and the desire to expand it. Enfield spoke on their objectives and desire to organize a trail along the Freight Line leading into the Southside of East Windsor. East Windsor Board of Selectmen along with Enfield has passed a resolution for such prior to this meeting. I have attached the minutes to this virtual "Teams" meeting.

August 18, 2021 I attend the monthly Staff meeting.

I am looking forward to celebrate the Broad Brook Fire Department's 125th Anniversary event to be held on Saturday, August 21, 2021. Hope to see the Community out for this Event.

Stay safe and Healthy,


Marie E. DeSousa, Deputy First Selectman

**Connecticut General Statute 27-103
RELEVANT DATES of WAR**

World War II
December 7, 1941 to December 31, 1946¹

Korean Conflict
June 27, 1950 to January 31, 1955

Vietnam Era
February 28, 1961 to July 1, 1975

Lebanon
July 1, 1958 to November 1, 1958 or
September 29, 1982 to March 30, 1984²

Invasion of Grenada
October 25, 1983 to December 15, 1983²

Operation Earnest Will
July 24, 1987 to August 1, 1990²
(Operation Earnest Will involving the
escort of Kuwaiti oil tankers flying the United
States flag in the Persian Gulf)

Invasion of Panama
December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990²

Persian Gulf War
After August 2, 1990³

"and shall include service during such periods with
the armed forces of any government associated
with the United States."

ALSO ELIGIBLE: If DD214 is recorded in another
Connecticut town before October 1, 1977 and
having served during above period less than 90
days

¹ Pursuant to § 12-86, twelve o'clock midnight on December 31,
1947 is the World War II termination date for purposes of
granting a property tax exemption.

² A person must have served in a combat or combat support
role for the duration of a campaign lasting less than 90 days
(i.e., the Invasions of Grenada and Panama) in order to
qualify for a property tax exemption. A person must also
have served in a combat or combat support role in Lebanon or
in Operation Earnest Will, during the specified dates, in order
to qualify for an exemption. An Armed Forces Expeditionary
Medal is awarded to such individuals.

³ Although referred to as the Persian Gulf War, service in the
Persian Gulf is not required, nor is service in a combat or
combat support role.

REV. 8/2/2021



Assessor's Office
11 Rye Street
Broad Brook, CT 06016-9553
Tel: (860) 623-8878
Fax: (860) 623-4798
www.eastwindsorct.com

Monday	8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Thursday	8:30 am to 7:00 pm
Friday	8:30 am to 1:00 pm

Connecticut law provides for exemption programs and tax relief for certain **QUALIFIED TAXPAYERS**. The programs are as follows:

Elderly or Disabled Homeowners

Renter Rebates
(contact Human Services 860-623-2430)

Veterans

Active Armed Forces

Totally Disabled

Modified Motor Vehicles for
handicapped drivers/passengers

Blind

You must be a resident of the State of Connecticut and the following requirements must be met in order to be eligible for these programs:

ADDITIONAL DISABILITY EXEMPTION

Connecticut General Statute 12-81i provides for an additional local option exemption for any person receiving an exemption under §12-81 (55). To qualify:

1. A person must be receiving the SS Disabled exemption according to C.G.S. 12-81 (55).
2. Qualify by income. For income requirements and types of proof for income, see Homeowner's section.
3. **This is an biennial filing between February 1st and October 1st**

BLIND

C.G.S. 12-81 (17) provides for an exemption in the amount of \$3,000 on the assessment of the property owned by, or held in trust for, a person who is blind. Requirements for granting the Blind Exemption are:

1. Must provide the Assessor with a "Certification of Legal Blindness" as received from:

State of Connecticut
Department of Human Resources
Board of Education and Services for the Blind
170 Ridge Road
Wethersfield, CT 06109

2. Eligibility for exemption must be proved and application made by **January 31**.

ADDITIONAL BLIND EXEMPTION

Connecticut General Statute 12-81j provides for an additional local exemption for any person receiving an exemption under §12-81 (17). To qualify:

1. A person must be receiving the blind exemption according to C.G.S. 12-81 (17).
2. Qualify by income. For income requirements and types of proof for income, see Homeowner's section.
3. **This is an biennial filing between February 1st and October 1st**

HANDICAPPED ADAPTED MOTOR VEHICLES

Connecticut General Statute 12-81c and Local Ordinance #86-2 provide for a total exemption of any motor vehicle which is handicapped-equipped with special hand controls or other adaptations for physically disabled passengers and/or drivers, or a motor vehicle which is used exclusively for the purpose of transporting any medically incapacitated individual, **except** any vehicle used to transport individuals for payment.

The application can be obtained at the Assessor's office or the Town's website and **must be filed by November 1st**.

1. Must be a resident of the State of Connecticut and must have an Honorable Discharge or certain "Other Than Honorable" discharges as defined in PA 18-47 (related to PTSD or TBI)
2. Served active duty for ninety or more cumulative days except, if the war, campaign or other operation lasted less than ninety days (see back of pamphlet)
3. A person who has not served in a conflict period but is entitled to a disability pension as determined by the Veteran's Administration
4. A serviceman who is in continuous service and has previous conflict period service
5. A person who has their DD214 recorded in another Connecticut town before October 1, 1977 and has served during a "conflict period" less than 90 days

A person may file an original or certified copy of their DD214 (discharge papers) **BEFORE OCTOBER 1** with the Town Clerk's Office to be eligible for the exemption on the Oct 1 Grand List.

If you move within the State of Connecticut, you must file your discharge paperwork with the Town Clerk's office in the town in which you moved by October 1. "Portability" provisions** exist between Connecticut towns if the DD214 is not filed timely when you move from one town to another. This needs to be processed by the assessors in each town. If you move back to a town where you had previously filed, please notify the Assessor's Office in that Town.

*armed forces are defined in §27-103 as:
Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corp, Merchant Marines, and activated National Guard. National Guard activated by an act of Congress or when serving for homeland security.

COPIES OF DISCHARGE RECORDS (DD-214)

Contact the National Archives and Records Administration for discharge records if you do not have your original document.

Internet: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/index.html>

Telephone: 1-866-272-6272

Mail: The National Archives and Records
Admin., 8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

Administration in accordance with CGS 12-81(20) to the assessor in order to qualify.

A veteran must submit the proper paperwork just once, unless the VA modifies the disability rating. If modified, the veteran must provide a copy of the new rating or forfeit the exemption until proof of the new rating is provided to the assessor.

Upon turning the age of 65, a disabled veteran's exemption will automatically become equal to a 100% rating.

****"PORTABILITY" of EXEMPTION**

C.G.S Sec. 12-81cc allows for the portability of certain veterans' property exemptions- those allowed under subdivisions (19), (20), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (28) or (53) of C.G.S Section 12-81. If a person has moved within the state during the year, they may request a letter of eligibility be given to the Assessor in their current town from the Assessor in the prior town. This statute allows any person eligible to receive an exemption in the town they moved from, and did not receive their exemption, to have that exemption forwarded to another town. Such person must submit proof of future eligibility by filing their DD214 in the new town of residence.

ADDITIONAL VETERAN'S EXEMPTION

A veteran receiving the regular veteran's exemption, will qualify for an additional exemption, provided by Connecticut General Statute 12-81f. This is equal to half the regular exemption and is applied automatically.

Alternatively, lower income veterans may qualify for an additional exemption equal to double the base exemption. The income requirements are the same as those for the State Homeowner Benefit program. (see #3 under "Homeowners" section). The application filing period for this program is February 1 thru October 1 for the exemption to be effective on the Grand List of October 1st.

An additional \$6000 exemption is available through the local option program whose qualifications mirror State program guidelines and income requirements.

Please bring the required proof of income as stated under Homeowner benefits. However, please **NOTE: Veterans' Disability payments are not considered income for this program. If VA disability rating is 100%, only taxable income is used.**

If you are the surviving spouse of a Veteran, you will also qualify for these programs, as long as you remain single.

ACTIVE SERVICEMEN

C.G.S. 12-81 (53)(a) provides for the exemption of **one** motor vehicle belonging to, leased to or held in trust for, any member of the United States Armed Forces.

Current National Guard and Air National Guard also qualify for this exemption.

1. Application forms are to be obtained from the Assessor's office or online from the Town website.
2. **Filing Deadline:** Filing is to be not later than December 31st following the date the property tax is due.

FEDERAL SOLDIERS & SAILORS RELIEF ACT -

Non Resident

If you are based in Connecticut on orders but are a legal resident of another State, you also qualify for an exemption for any motor vehicles registered to you or your spouse in the State.

Application forms for this exemption may be obtained by contacting the Assessor's office or online on the Town's website.

SOCIAL SECURITY DISABLED

C.G.S. 12-81 (55) provides for an exemption in the amount of \$1,000 on the assessment of the property owned by, or held in trust for, a person who is disabled and receiving Social Security disability benefits if they:

1. Qualify in accordance with federal regulations, to receive permanent total disability benefits under Social Security; or qualify for permanent total disability benefits under a federal, state or local government retirement or disability plan, including the Railroad Retirement Act;
2. Present to the Assessor a current original Certificate of Award letter from Social Security or current documentation from the Department of Social Security, or their doctor if they did not work under a Social Security plan; and
3. Sign and file the prescribed form with the Assessor by **January 31**.

HOMEOWNERS

Connecticut General Statutes provide for a credit to be applied to the annual real estate tax bill of certain qualified taxpayers. To qualify:

1. You must own and reside at the property for which tax relief is sought. You may have Life Use or be a part owner of the property.
2. You, or your spouse, must have been 65 years of age at the close of the calendar year preceeding your application or you must be over 18 and permanently and totally disabled.
3. There is an income limit for this program. Income includes pension, wages, interest on accounts etc. and Social Security — for both persons if married. The limits are set each year by the State of Connecticut and are subject to change. You may call the Assessor's office to determine the current income limits.
4. You must provide the Assessor with a copy of your federal income tax return, if you file one, and your SSA 1099 from Social Security and/ or Railroad Retirement. Statements for all taxable and nontaxable income must be provided if an income tax return is not filed, including Veterans pension and disability payment statements .
5. **Applications must be filed between February 1 and May 15**, in the Assessor's Office. After the initial application, they must be filed every two years.

RENTERS

If you are a renter within the Town of East Windsor, you may file between April 1 and October 1.

(a mobile home owner may file as a renter **OR** Homeowner but not both)

For Renters information please contact the Human Services office at:
(860) 623-2430

- Enfield is interested in any information related to economic development

Stephanie Stroud (she/her)
Community Planner



NPS-RTCA

Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

National Park Service - Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
15 State Street, Boston, MA 02109
Cell: (857) 270.3013
teleworking until further notice

Learn more about NPS – RTCA:
[Website](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

"This may only be a dream of mine, but I think it can be made real."
--Ella Baker

From: Stroud, Stephanie L <Stephanie_Stroud@nps.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2021 2:53 PM
To: carol.hall@housegop.ct.gov <carol.hall@housegop.ct.gov>; Ludwick, Michael <mludwick@enfield.org>; dszewczak6275@gmail.com <dszewczak6275@gmail.com>; jbowsza@eastwindsorct.com <jbowsza@eastwindsorct.com>; scottkaupin@cox.net <scottkaupin@cox.net>; fattymoo@gmail.com <fattymoo@gmail.com>; loriung@gmail.com <loriung@gmail.com>; unghirej@gmail.com <unghirej@gmail.com>; Bethany Yeo <bethany.yeo@eastlongmeadowma.gov>; Brown, Elizabeth P <Elizabeth_P_Brown@nps.gov>; Jaime.Foster@cga.ct.gov <Jaime.Foster@cga.ct.gov>; Saud.Anwar@cga.ct.gov <Saud.Anwar@cga.ct.gov>; Pamtownsend4957@yahoo.com <Pamtownsend4957@yahoo.com>; mdesousa@eastwindsorct.com <mdesousa@eastwindsorct.com>
Cc: tom.christensen@eastlongmeadowma.gov <tom.christensen@eastlongmeadowma.gov>; Rep. Hall, Carol <Carol.Hall@cga.ct.gov>; bruce.fenney@eastlongmeadowma.gov <bruce.fenney@eastlongmeadowma.gov>; mary.mcnally@eastlongmeadowma.gov <mary.mcnally@eastlongmeadowma.gov>; george.kingston@eastlongmeadowma.gov <george.kingston@eastlongmeadowma.gov>; deborah.house@eastlongmeadowma.gov <deborah.house@eastlongmeadowma.gov>
Subject: Meeting Notes from Today's Call: East Longmeadow, CT and NPS RTCA

Hi Everyone!

Thank you for a great call today! It is so inspiring to hear all of the work you all are doing to create a trail system for your communities!

Below are notes from our meeting. Please do let me know if any of this information is incorrect or needs to be edited (I took notes best I could while everyone was talking, but may have missed a few things here and there!). You will also see contact information for the individuals I mentioned on our call today.

Many thanks, and hope to talk to you all soon! --Steph

CT, East Longmeadow, and NPS RTCA Call Notes
August 12, 2021 @ 10:00 on Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

NPS: Steph Stroud, Elizabeth Brown

East Longmeadow: Bethany Yeo, George Kingston, Bruce Fenney, Debbie House, Tom Christensen,

Enfield: Michael Ludwick (Mayor), John Gallacher (Board of Education), Laurie Unghire

East Windsor: Donna Szewczak, Scott Kaupin, Mike Emmons, Jason Bowsza (First Selectman), Marie Desousa

Rep. Carol Hall

Meeting Agenda:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Enfield, CT: background and overview of trail efforts and objectives to date
- East Longmeadow: background and overview of trail efforts and objectives to date
- National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program: overview of program
- Potential next steps for working together!
- Adjourn

Enfield, East Windsor and CT:

- Enfield: Application to DOT has been approved
- Freight line runs through Rep. Hall's district. Lease on freight line expired last year. The gentleman who owns the lease would like to reapply for another 25 years. The rail line is defunct. There is one good piece on the South Side of East Windsor.
- Not a working line in over 50 years.
- DOT has signed a one year lease with him. We are now 3-4 months into the lease. Rep. Hall has not received a copy of the lease yet. Both Enfield and East Windsor have passed resolutions for a trail and this has received attention from DOT.
- Two Senators (Kistler (??) and Anwar): both in support. Bipartisan effort for a rails to trail.
- Mike Ludwick: line is technically still active. Federal government has to release the line.
 - Trying to figure out what the best method is to organize and who needs to be involved
- Donna: Biofuels expansion business located on the line, as well as a jet fuel delivery company in a small section of the industrial park. Want to reestablish the freight line for transport. There are 10 abutters that are in favor of the trail and would not like to see the freight line established.
- Rep Hall-- have had a huge amount of support for this project, the big hurdle will be with CT DOT. In PoCD.

East Longmeadow:

- Independent trail non-profit formed to advocate for the trail and engaged the US rep. The group helped to advocate and gather federal funding. Having a separate grassroots group was helpful.
- Pipeline is still in the ROW and is still active. Now used for fiber optic.
- Bethany-- Redstone Rail Trail is 1.8 Mile out and back road. 1.5 Million dollar project over the course of two decades from when discussions began to its completion. Pioneer Valley Planning Commission collects data on trail usage and has been a critical advocate. New master plan has been approved and community has said that they want the rail trail extended.
- George: 501c3 dissolved after the rail trail was established. Existed for about 10 years before the project got started.
- Residential abutters may not be in favor at first. Businesses may be in favor. East Longmeadow has restaurants and a bike shop along the trail.
- The Rec Department is putting together a 501 c3 and may have advice for how to get started.

National Park Service, Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA):

- RTCA is a technical assistance program within the National Park Service that provides free planning assistance for communities. Applications are due in March: nps.gov/rtca
- RTCA is currently assisting the Town of East Longmeadow with trail planning and development.

Next Steps:

- CT folks should start to engage with the COGs, CT DEEP, and CT DOT, CT Greenways Council, and Rails to Trails Conservancy.
 - CT DEEP: Laurie Gionnotti: laurie.gionnotti@ct.gov
 - CT DOT, Transportation Planners: Anna Bergeron: anna.bergeron@ct.gov and Bill Champagne: william.champagne@ct.gov
 - CT Greenways Council: Bruce Donald, Chair: bruce@greenway.org
 - Rails to Trails Conservancy: Tom Sexton, Director of the Northeast Region: tom@railstotrails.org
- Enfield is interested in any information related to economic development

Stephanie Stroud (she/her)
Community Planner



NPS-RTCA

Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program

National Park Service - Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
15 State Street, Boston, MA 02109
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teleworking until further notice

Learn more about NPS – RTCA:

[Website](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

"This may only be a dream of mine, but I think it can be made real."
--Ella Baker

From: Stroud, Stephanie L

Sent: Monday, August 9, 2021 5:06 PM

To: carol.hall@housegop.ct.gov <carol.hall@housegop.ct.gov>; Ludwick, Michael <mludwick@enfield.org>; dszewczak6275@gmail.com <dszewczak6275@gmail.com>; jbowsza@eastwindsorct.com <jbowsza@eastwindsorct.com>; scottkaupin@cox.net <scottkaupin@cox.net>; fattymoo@gmail.com <fattymoo@gmail.com>; loriung@gmail.com <loriung@gmail.com>; unghirej@gmail.com <unghirej@gmail.com>; Bethany Yeo <bethany.yeo@eastlongmeadowma.gov>; Brown, Elizabeth P <Elizabeth_P_Brown@nps.gov>; Jaime.Foster@cga.ct.gov <Jaime.Foster@cga.ct.gov>; Saud.Anwar@cga.ct.gov <Saud.Anwar@cga.ct.gov>; Pamtownsend4957@yahoo.com <Pamtownsend4957@yahoo.com>; mdesousa@eastwindsorct.com <mdesousa@eastwindsorct.com>

Cc: tom.christensen@eastlongmeadowma.gov <tom.christensen@eastlongmeadowma.gov>; Rep. Hall, Carol <Carol.Hall@cga.ct.gov>; bruce.fenney@eastlongmeadowma.gov <bruce.fenney@eastlongmeadowma.gov>;

BVS 8/19/2021 Attachment D

Thanks for the reminder.

Selectman Nordell's report for 8/19/2021

On August 11th I attended the Police Commission meeting with the newly appointed commissioner Thomas Riordan. The meeting was very short with no important business coming before the board that was discussed in open session.

Tomorrow, August 20th, the Connecticut Trolley Museum will have WhoDat playing live at 6pm. And on Saturday the 21st starting at 10AM they have a special Super Hero and Princess day. Tickets and info can be found on their FB and website.

Also this weekend is the BBFD 125th anniversary celebration with a parade starting at 5pm down Main st., BB, and ending at the reservoir. Live music at the reservoir from 6-8 and Fireworks at 9pm.

BOV 8/19/2021 Attachment E

Selectmen's Report - August 19, 2021

Hope everyone is enjoying the remaining few weeks of Summer! I don't have too much to report this evening.

The Board of Education and Board of Finance cancelled their meetings and I was unfortunately unable to attend the Veterans Commission meeting due to storm damage.

Tomorrow evening, August 20, 2021, from 6:00PM-9:00PM, WhoDat will be playing at the Connecticut Trolley Museum. Tickets are \$10.00 and include a trolley ride.

I am looking forward to the parade and festivities celebrating the Broad Brook Fire Department's 125th Anniversary on Saturday! Hoping for good weather, so we can honor all of the amazing firefighters serving our community, past and present.

Submitted With Sincerity,

Sarah A. Muska, Selectman