

PLANNING COMMISSION

The Connecticut General Statutes empower the Planning Commission with keeping current the Town's Plan of Conservation & Development, which is a statement of the town's goals and policies for land use. The Commission approves private subdivisions and municipal improvements of land consistent with the Town's Plans for physical improvements, outreach programs, and standards for development.

The electorate of Old Saybrook elects 5 members to serve for a term of 4 years each and 3 alternate members for a term of 2 years each.

During the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the Commission held 18 meetings.

- The Commission approved 3 applications for modification of existing subdivisions and 1 application to move a lot line.
- The Commission responded to requests for a report of consistency with Town Plans about 5 Special Exception uses, 4 zoning regulation/map changes and 1 Municipal Improvement proposal—acquisition of open space on Coulter Street.
- The Commission hosted 3 community workshops and concluded its work as the principal sponsor of the Community Coastal Resilience Study to inform the upcoming update of the Town's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Two members of the Planning Commission participated on the Advisory Committee of the Mariner's Way Discovery + Action Plan project, which concluded with a place branding and infrastructure improvement concept for the Mariner's Way portion of the Boston Post Road (East).
- The Commission began its study of factors affecting residential development to update the Town Plan by hosting presentations of 4 different organizations that regularly work in housing.

The Commission works closely with other land use groups. Presently, Paula Kay represents the Commission on the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission. Kenneth Soudan is the Commission's representative to the Connecticut River Estuary Regional Planning Committee and to the Mariner's Way Advisory Committee with Kathy Sugland. Kathy Sugland is our point person on matters related to residential development and participates with Tom Cox in the Economic Development Commission's study of factors that affect economic development in Old Saybrook. Doug McCracken is our point person on matters of climate change and natural hazards. The Commission thanks all for their dedication to these additional organizations and the continuing coordination of land use policies.

We are grateful for the valued contributions by outgoing members Dan Walden and Mike Urban, and for the leadership of Janis Esty, especially.

The Commission meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month with the exception of July and August, when there is only one meeting, at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, first floor conference room. Meryl Moskowitz of the Land Use Department supports us as our administrative clerk. Christine Nelson, Town Planner, is available Monday through Thursday by appointment in the Land Use Department of the Town Hall to assist with applications and to answer questions concerning land use in Old Saybrook.

W.A. Kenneth Soudan, *Chairman*