

## 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 2019 fiscal year, the Commission held 13 meetings.

- The Commission hosted 3 community workshops and concluded its work as the principal sponsor of the update of the Town's Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Two members of the Commission assisted the Economic Development Commission in visiting numerous community groups and hosting 3 community workshops about its study of factors affecting economic development in Old Saybrook to update that section of the Town Plan.
- The Commission hosted a presentation by the Land Use Department to wrap-up its study of Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing in Old Saybrook for the SustainableCT Initiative.
- The Commission responded to requests for a report of consistency with Town Plans about 1 Special Exception use, 3 zoning regulation/map changes and 6 Municipal Improvement proposals—transfer ownership of an unimproved portion of Ingham Hill Road; "Mariner's Way TIF District" Master Plan; multiple streets renaming; a right-of-way easement on Elm Street; and location of a turnaround near the terminus of Ingham Hill Road.
- The Commission approved 1 application to move a lot line in an existing subdivision.

The Commission works closely with other land use groups. This year, the Commission assisted the Old Saybrook Historical Society in publication of a self-guided tour brochure about the "Siege & Battle of Saybrook Fort" to inform the public about the Pequot War and the preservation of battlefields. 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. 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 the Natural Hazard Plan update. The Commission thanks all for their dedication to these additional organizations and the continuing coordination of land use policies.

The Commission meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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. Sharon Migliaccio 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.

**Kenneth W.A. Soudan, *Chairman***