



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
**Planning Commission**

*Kenneth W. A. Soudan, Chairman  
Kathleen A. Sugland, Vice Chairman  
Trevor D. Ladd, Secretary*

302 Main Street  
Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475  
**oldsaybrookct.gov**

*Robert D. Missel  
Paula S. Kay  
Douglas S. McCracken, Alternate  
Thomas R. Cox, Alternate  
Mark Patterson, Alternate*

**MINUTES**  
REGULAR MEETING  
**Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 6:30 P.M.**  
Town Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room  
302 Main Street, Old Saybrook

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Ken Soudan called the meeting to order at 6:32pm

**II. ROLL CALL**

Members present: Ken Soudan, Kathy Sugland, Trevor Ladd, Paula Kay, Doug McCracken, Tom Cox

Members absent: Robert Missel, Mark Patterson

Staff: Meryl Moskowitz, Recording Clerk

Three residents were present in the audience: Bill Webster, of the Borough of Fenwick, Maggie Kelleher-Goldberg and Nellie Perera, residents of Chalker Beach.

**III. PUBLIC WORKSHOP**

**Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update**

Doug McCracken introduced Sam Bell, Senior Resiliency Planner with the firm GZA, consultants on the plan update. Mr. Bell presented the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan update, noting that the plan is in draft form and he welcomes input from the public and stakeholders throughout the process.

Mr. Bell stated two reasons for why the plan update matters: 1) for public safety, and 2) to be eligible for FEMA grant assistance towns must have a hazard mitigation plan. He stated that when the NHMP update is incorporated into the Town plan, the Town will be in a better position for funding. D. McCracken added that when disaster strikes, you want to be ready and eligible to receive funding, and you want to protect essential services so that they operate during and after significant events.

Mr. Bell reviewed the top four hazards for the Town and borough of Fenwick: flooding due to coastal storms, sea level rise, hurricanes, and severe winter weather.

Maggie Kelleher-Goldberg, resident of Chalker Beach suggested that associations coordinate communication within their associations, establishing a kind of network, with points of contact to liaise with the Town. Members agreed this be incorporated as an action item in the plan. K. Soudan stated that emergency response needs to be a high priority action item.

The presentation covered many topics including in part:

- ☐ Federal and state funding sources
- ☐ a review of high priority actions
- ☐ updated Town hazard mitigation capabilities
- ☐ identification of 19 hazards applicable to the Town

A draft of the in-depth plan update will be made available to the public in May 2019 on the Town website, and will be presented at a Town meeting.

Mr. Bell identified next steps:

- ☐ present the draft plan in May, for public review followed by a 3<sup>rd</sup> public presentation
- ☐ revise & finalize plan
- ☐ submit draft plan to CT DEMHS/FEMA (Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security)

K. Soudan requested that an email list be compiled of all beach associations and their contacts, and that they, as well as Town commission members be invited to the next public presentation of the draft plan.

#### IV. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** to adjourn at 8:25p.m. Until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Planning Commission which will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., at 302 Main Street; **MADE** by K. Sugland; **SECONDED** by P. Kay; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** K. Soudan, T. Ladd, P. Kay, K. Sugland; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINING:** None; **APPROVED:** 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Meryl Moskowitz  
Recording Clerk