

**TOWN OF HADDAM  
POCD IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE (PIC)  
PUBLIC MEETING  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
7 CANDLEWOOD HILL ROAD, HIGGANUM, CT 06441  
THURSDAY, 27 JANUARY 2022  
UNAPPROVED MINUTES  
*Subject to Approval by the Committee***

**ATTENDANCE**

X	Kate Anderson, Chairman – Newly Elected
X	Peter Baird (7:06 p.m.)
X	Steven Bull, Chairman - Outgoing
X	Raul DeBrigard
X	Patrick Pinnell
X	Gail Reynolds
X	Edward Wallor
X	Bob McGarry, First Selectman (7:25 p.m.)
X	Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk

**1. Call to Order and Attendance**

Mr. Bull, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and attendance was taken.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

The pledge was recited.

**3. Election of Chairperson**

Mr. Bull stated he would like a new chairperson. A brief discussion followed as to whether it needed to be someone from P&Z (not believed so).

Ms. Anderson noted that the POCD is overseen by the Board of Selectmen (BOS) and cited page 82, second paragraph, of the POCD; and asked when it was decided that P&Z would oversee it. Mrs. Reynolds stated P&Z is responsible for the POCD. Mrs. Batzner stated this topic had been discussed before and would need to research the minutes to locate the information. Mr. Wallor stated PIC reports to P&Z and he believes Ms. Anderson is right that the BOS should oversee the POCD. Mrs. Batzner stated yes, noting that PIC is an ad hoc committee of P&Z. Mr. Wallor agreed. Mr. Wallor stated once P&Z approves (appoints) all the members of PIC, it then reports that information to the BOS to make it a viable committee. Discussion followed. Mr. Bull stated at the next P&Z meeting he and Mr. Wallor will recommend someone to fill Lynne Cooper's position.

Mrs. Reynolds expressed concern over the Committee morphing into something that it was not intended to be. Mrs. Reynolds stated the POCD is a guide, that different commissions are to be working on different action items, and PIC's responsibility is to check on the progress of those commissions with their action items. Mrs. Reynolds also stated she's concerned there may be an attempt to influence things. Mrs. Reynolds stated she thought some of the comments in recent emails crossed a line. Mr. DeBrigard agreed and disagreed; and stated he didn't think it was the Committee's job to push for a particular project. Mr. DeBrigard stated he read the POCD and its wide open as to what the Committee is to do. Mr. DeBrigard feels the Committee should not only ask about the action items, but also ask what the priorities are (as they could have changed since the POCD was approved). Mrs. Reynolds stated she's aware the pandemic created a pause for the Committee, however, she sees creep into people's pet projects. Mr. Pinnell stated if Mrs. Reynolds was interpreting what he said as spearheading, he was not; however, he was suggesting what the preamble says in regard to the establishment of the Committee.

Mr. Baird stated the POCD should be the guiding document for the Committee and it states explicitly “moving the town garage out of the town’s center” and believes the Committee has to advocate for that. Discussion followed at length with the Committee agreeing the POCD is a guide.

Moving back to the chairman’s position, Mr. Bull asked who would be interested in the position. After brief consideration by Mr. Pinnell and Mr. Baird (both noted being very busy at this time), Mrs. Reynolds (doesn’t have the time), Mr. Wallor (may be deemed a conflict as he’s P&Z chairman), and Ms. Anderson (recommended by Mr. Wallor).

As there were no other nominations, the Committee approved Ms. Anderson as their new chairman.

#### **4. Discuss Current Member List**

Mr. Bull reported that Peter Baird was appointed to the Committee as a representative to the Board of Finance (BOF) – replaced Joe Centofanti, and Lynne Cooper had submitted her resignation. Committee members stated they will miss Ms. Cooper’s input and wished her well. Thank you, Lynne!

#### **5. Discuss Addition of Mike Karam to the Committee**

Mr. Bull stated Mike Karam has expressed interest in joining the Committee as did Lisa Malloy, Director, Haddam Historical Society; however, Mrs. Malloy has withdrawn her request to be considered for the Committee. Mr. Bull stated he did not know Mr. Karam. Mr. Baird and Mr. Pinnell stated they know Mr. Karam and that he is very interested in town issues, keeps up on things, and ran for P&Z in the last election. Mrs. Reynolds asked if he will be representing any commission. Mr. Pinnell stated Mr. Karam is very interested in historic preservation.

The Committee will recommend Mike Karam to P&Z for appointment to the Committee.

Mr. Bull asked about party affiliation. Mrs. Batzner stated she reviewed the Committee list as provided by the Town Clerk’s Office and there were no party affiliations listed for anyone on the Committee merely what committee each member was representing. Mr. Bull stated there is nothing within the POCD Implementation section that indicates political affiliation. Mr. Wallor stated the Committee needs the best people they can get to serve on it. Mr. Bull asked if anyone had Mr. Karam’s email. Mr. Baird stated he would provide the email to Mr. Bull. Ms. Anderson asked if Mr. Karam was aware this matter was being discussed noting that she hesitates putting anyone on a committee if they haven’t attended a meeting. Mr. Bull stated Mr. Karam asked to be put on the Committee and he will email Mr. Karam to let him know he will be recommended to P&Z.

#### **6. Recommend Member Changes to P&Z**

Mr. Bull stated the Committee’s recommendation of Mike Karam to PIC will be made to P&Z on Thursday, 3 February 2022. Mr. Wallor asked Mrs. Batzner to notify Bill Warner, Town Planner, to add this item to P&Z’s agenda. Mr. Bull asked that he have an opportunity to confirm acceptance from Mr. Karam prior to Mr. Warner being notified.

Mrs. Reynolds asked Mr. Bull if he intends to remain on the Committee. Mr. Bull stated he will remain.

#### **7. Discuss Procedure and Format of Producing a 2022 Progress Report**

Mr. Bull stated he felt tasks should be assigned to get to a procedure and then the Committee come back to discuss their progress. Discussion followed in regard to the reports previously received and the liaisons gathering updated reports to be brought back to the next meeting. For Mr. Baird’s benefit, Ms. Anderson explained the previous process of reaching out to the various groups for their reports Mr. Pinnell read from the POCD action agenda outlining reporting agencies. The Committee reviewed the

previous liaison contact list and members were assigned new commissions/boards/groups to be a liaison to. Kate Anderson – BOS, EDC, and Health Dept.; Ed Wallor – Town Planner and ARC; Gail Reynolds – Conservation; Steve Bull – P&Z, PIC, and Sustainability; Raul DeBrigard – Brainerd Memorial Library; Patrick Pinnell – Historical Society; Peter Baird – Park and Rec, BOF, and Higganum Cove; Bunny Batzner – Public Works. Ms. Anderson asked if Mr. Karma were to join, which committee might he be interested in. Mr. Baird stated he's a part of the Historical Society. Mr. Bull stated he can decide at the next meeting. Mrs. Batzner will update the list and email out to Committee members.

Mr. Wallor stated the Committee's goal is to improve the process. Mr. Wallor stated the pandemic put the Committee on hiatus and it's time for it to move forward. Mr. Pinnell stated the Committee needs to establish a routine. Mr. Wallor stated the Committee needs to start anew. Mr. Bull stated he would take full responsibility for not holding meetings. Committee members stated the pandemic put a hold on meetings.

Mr. Bull asked if all committees have to submit an annual report. Mrs. Reynolds and Mr. Wallor stated if they receive town funds, they have to submit an annual report. Mr. DeBrigard believes it will work better if meeting either one on one or coming before the Committee to answer the questions. Mrs. Reynolds stated there could have been leadership changes and those people may not be unaware of PIC and the need to work on the action items.

Ms. Anderson will organize the grids over the weekend and will email them to everyone. Ms. Anderson noted there were lead committees, support committees, and a handful that applied to everyone.

The Committee discussed a time frame to hold their next meeting. The Committee chose the first Monday of the month. Mrs. Batzner will ask what meeting space is available and email everyone with a location.

## **8. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Kate Anderson motioned to adjourn. Patrick Pinnell second. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Bunny Hall Batzner*

Bunny Hall Batzner  
Recording Clerk

**The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 7 March 2022, 7:00 p.m.,**

**Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam.**