



CITY OF DANBURY
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PLANNING COMMISSION*
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*POCD Oversight Committee

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2023 PLAN OF CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT (“POCD”)
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 15, 2022

The web based meeting hosted on Zoom was called to order by Sharon Calitro, City of Danbury (“COD”) Planning Director, at 4:06 PM.

Present were Oversight Committee Members Arnold Finaldi (PC Chairman), Joel Urice (PC Vice-Chairman), Bob Chiocchio (PC), Perry Salvagne (PC), Sharon Calitro (COD Planning), Jennifer Emminger (COD Planning), Veasna Roeun (COD Health), Richard Janelli (Board of Education), Timothy Nolan (COD Public Services), Brigid Guertin (Danbury Museum & Historical Soc.), Fred Visconti (City Council), Vincent DiGilio (City Council), and Paul Rotello (City Council). Present from FHI Studio were Francisco Gomes.

Absent: Helen Hoffstaetter (PC), Kevin Haas (PC), Gary Renz (PC), Roger Palanzo (COD Business Advocacy), PJ Prunty (Chamber of Commerce), Matthew Cassavechia (COD Emergency Services), Ed Siergiej (Former Env./Lake Commission), Juan Rivas (ZBA), and Candace Fay (ZC).

Paul Rotello motioned to accept the November 16, 2021 minutes, Bob Chiocchio seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. The December 21, 2021 meeting notes will be posted online as there was not a quorum.

Sharon Calitro welcomed the Oversight Committee and turned the meeting agenda over to Francisco Gomes from FHI Studio (“FHI”).

Francisco briefly reviewed the agenda for the meeting, which includes a review of the focus groups and virtual workshop findings, discussion of key themes emerging from discovery phase and public engagement, and a review of the project schedule.

A summary was provided of the community engagement to date, which includes several pop-up events, the online survey, the in-person and virtual workshops, and the six focus group meetings (housing and neighborhood, economic development; city service and facilities; transportation

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and infrastructure; cultural and historic resources; and open space and environmental resources). Francisco provided a more detailed summary of the issues and ideas discussed by the participants of each focus group.

An update was provided on the Affordable Housing Plan. Francisco discussed the findings from the Affordable Housing Plan virtual workshop and outlined the issues and ideas discussed by the workshop participants.

Francisco next discussed the importance of establishing themes and how the themes should be aligned with the POCD vision statement. The following potential themes were discussed. The first theme discussed was 'Protect', noting that Danbury will protect its resources with special attention focused towards its most vulnerable resources and residents. The next theme identified is 'Promote', noting that Danbury will promote all this it has offer. 'Expand' is the next theme discussed, noting that Danbury will expand opportunities and options presented to its residents. The third theme identified is 'Connect' which includes connecting residents to resources and connecting places within Danbury. The next theme discussed is 'Improve', noting that Danbury will improve the services and facilities that it provides to its residents, which includes communications, traffic operations and safety, and the City's operations. Another theme discussed was 'Partner', noting Danbury will foster partnerships with surrounding communities, institutions, the private sector, and with residents. 'Invest' was the next theme identified, noting Danbury will invest in its future.

The remaining project schedule was discussed and reviewed. The next meeting is scheduled for March 15, 2022 and will include a focus on reviewing plan themes and goals and review plan format options.

Paul Rotello made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Vinny DiGilio. The meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer L. Emminger
Deputy Planning Director