



State & Commerce Committee - Board of Representatives

Lindsey Miller, Chair

Robert Roqueta, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, March 15, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th Floor, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The State & Commerce Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Miller and Vice Chair Roqueta. Absent or excused were Committee Member Reps. Adams, Graziosi, Liebson, Mahoney and McGarry. There was no quorum present. Also present were Thomas Madden, Director of Economic Development; Sam Gordon, Innovate Stamford Project Manager and Emily Gordon, Program Manager, 2030 District.

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. SC30.008	RESOLUTION; Supporting Participation in the Sustainable CT Municipal Certification Program. 02/20/18 – Submitted by Thomas Madden	REPORT MADE & HELD

Mr. Madden stated that this resolution permits the City to apply to Sustainable CT. He has been involved in this project for about one year. New Jersey and New York already have this type of program. This program enables communities to work together to develop best practices. The application is due by May 1st, with final proposals in the fall. It will not cost the City to do this, because Mr. Gordon, who has a degree in environmental conservation, has offered to do this as part of his Master's program in resilient and sustainable communities. The City can't apply without the resolution, demonstrating the City's support. Thirty-five communities in CT have submitted this resolution. Mr. Gordon plans to report to the Board of Representatives quarterly. There being no quorum, this item was held.

2. SC30.009	REVIEW; Update on Council of Governments Activities/Review COG functions. 03/07/18 – Submitted by Rep. Miller	HELD
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Mr. Madden explained that Mr. Pickering will be able to appear before the committee next month.

3. SC30.010	REVIEW; Arts & Culture Commission. 03/07/18 – Submitted by Rep. Miller	REPORT MADE
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Mr. Madden stated that the Commission has a fully staffed board. The Commission has been tasked with 14 items. So far the Commission has started to compile a cultural resources survey. They have been working with Verbio to create a community calendar which is accessible from the City website, and is also available through Amazon. They have been assisting organizations to apply for grants, They are working on a book or arts organizations and cultural activities for companies looking at Stamford, so these companies can invest in the community.

4. SC30.011 REVIEW; Activities to Implement the Sustainability **REPORT MADE**
Amendments that are Included In the Master Plan
(Such as Deployment of Solar Arrays and the
Reduction of Greenhouse Gasses.)
03/07/18 – Submitted by Rep. Lion

Mr. Madden explained that the Master Plan contains numerous sustainability items they would like to see in the City. When Robin Stein left, some of the sustainability dropped off, but some of the projects have been picked up by the Energy Improvement District. Some of the projects don't make sense because the rate of return on the investments is too long, but they have been able to pre-plan for emergencies. They are still looking at a microgrid.

5. SC30.012 REVIEW; Determination of Zoning Designations by **REPORT MADE**
the Zoning Board regarding Enterprise Zone
Classifications.
02/28/18 – Submitted by Rep. Lion

Mr. Madden believes that there is a misunderstanding about this. There was a park land swap recently approved by the Board of Representatives, which required some zoning switches, and the entire property is within the Enterprise Zone. Rep. Lion mistakenly believed that one piece of property was coming out of the Enterprise Zone and the other piece was coming out. Since the City is no longer receiving funds from the State for the Enterprise Zone, the City is not going to renew this. The City did benefit from this in the past. Stamford did better under this program than other municipalities. Urban Jobs and Entertainment District programs, which are citywide, will continue.

Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Miller, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).