

AD HOC SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE COMMITTEE OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 6:00PM
Via Zoom

AGENDA

To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone or join via Zoom. Specific instructions and links can be found at www.norwalkct.org/meetings.



Members of the public can call in and listen to a meeting. They will not be able to speak or see any of the meeting participants. Each meeting will use a unique Meeting/Webinar ID. Please find the information using the link above.



Members of the public who wish to provide "live comments" will need to register in advance and use the Zoom meeting platform. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, click the "raise your hand indicator" and you will be called on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. Please find the information using the link above.



Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit comments via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting start time. Please email Katie O'Leary at koleary@norwalkct.org to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

- 1. Call to order**
- 2. Roll call**
- 3. Public participation**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Approve minutes of May 11, 2022 meeting
- 5. Business**
 - a. Brian Bidolli, Executive Director, Norwalk Redevelopment Agency, will present the [Community Resilience Building Workshop Summary of Findings](#).
- 6. Adjournment**

**CITY OF NORWALK
AD HOC SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCE COMMITTEE
OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
MAY 11, 2022
Via Zoom**

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ATTENDANCE: Lisa Shanahan, Chair; Thomas Keegan; Thomas Livingston; Darlene Young (6:16 p.m.); Dominique Johnson (6:30 p.m.)

STAFF: Brian Bidolli, Norwalk Redevelopment Agency; Alexis Cherichetti, Senior Environmental Officer; Michelle Andrzejewski, Land Use Planner; Katie O'Leary, Norwalk Redevelopment Agency; Marc Dillon, Norwalk Redevelopment Agency

OTHERS: Sydney Collins, UConn student

1. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Shanahan called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

A Quorum was not present at Roll Call.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation comments are not verbatim and represent a summarization of statements unless otherwise noted.

Ms. Lynnelle Jones referred to the City's MS4 permit, regarding the City's stormwater management plan. She said no one reads it and she is not convinced that Norwalk is in compliance with that permit. She asked the Committee members to read the permit.

Ms. Jones expressed gratitude to Michelle Laurie in Customer Service for her hard work.

Ms. Young joined the meeting at 6:16 p.m. A Quorum was now present.

Ms. Diane Lauricella submitted an e-mail requesting that an article, Piore, Adam "Cities Brace for Apocalyptic Flooding as New Age of Super Storms Dawns *Newsweek*, May 11, 2022, about cities bracing for apocalyptic flooding be entered into the record. Ms. Shanahan encouraged all Committee members to read the article.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Approve minutes of April 14, 2022 meeting

The following correction was made to the minutes.

Page 3, first sentence should read:

Ms. Johnson asked if the industrial neighborhoods were factored into the social vulnerability index in Bridgeport.

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. BUSINESS

a. Michelle Andrzejewski, Land Use Planner, Planning & Zoning, along with Sydney Collins, UConn student, will discuss the outreach for the SoNo Community Resilience efforts.

Ms. Andrzejewski explained that this project was funded through a grant from the University of Connecticut.

Ms. Collins gave a presentation on her outreach efforts. She said that marketing and knowing your audience were important factors. She reviewed the initiatives that were found to be successful, including offering \$5.00 gift cards to participants. Another success was going to the community and printing out surveys for on the ground outreach.

Ms. Andrzejewski highlighted the objectives of the workshop and said they tried to target residents in South Norwalk through flyer distribution and offering compensation.

Ms. Collins said they held a virtual workshop but did not have any participants; it was a learning opportunity.

The next steps will be to use the remaining funds for more outreach.

Ms. Shanahan thanked Ms. Collins for all the work going into the community.

Ms. Johnson joined the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Cherichetti thanked Ms. Collins for her hard work trying to engage the community.

b. Alexis Cherichetti, Senior Environmental Officer, Planning & Zoning, will review inland and tidal wetland, flood, Coastal Area Management and Aquifer regulations.

Ms. Cherichetti explained she is applying for a flood resilience grant and asked for a general letter of support from this ad hoc committee. Ms. Shanahan said she read the letter and shared the concept with Mr. Livingston. They will review the letter with Mr. Coppola, Corporation Counsel.

Mr. Livingston suggested drafting a letter that will be signed by him as the Common Council President and by Ms. Shanahan as the Committee Chair.

Ms. Cherichetti gave an overview of her responsibilities. She said that for the past 20 years she has been the staff person who administers the inland wetland watercourse regulations and coastal area management.

6. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. LIVINGSTON MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

There was no further business, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services