

**PLANNING COMMISSION – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, January 10, 2023**  
**Main Meeting Room – 933 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, CT 06070**

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Leavitt-Smith called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Town Planner, George McGregor; Planning Consultant, Glenn Chalder Chair, Erin Leavitt-Smith; Secretary, William Rice; Donald Colantonio, Diane Duran, Julie Eaton, and Marcus Furze.

**Absent:** Holly Beum, Joseph Campolieta, and Craig MacCormac.

Diane Duran and Marcus Furze were appointed as regular members for tonight’s meeting.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 22, 2022, REGULAR MEETING**

**MOTION:** Secretary Rice made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Eaton, to accept the Minutes of the November 22, 2022, Regular Meeting as submitted. The motion carried unanimously. (6-0-0).

**IV. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

No public hearings.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**VI. PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

**POCD Update Discussion**

- Mr. Chalder announced that there is an upcoming public meeting on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> at Henry James Memorial School, where residents can participate in an interactive community discussion on what they appreciate and hope for Simsbury.

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- Mr. Chalder went through the results from the Simsbury POCD Community Survey.
- Responses showed success in the Town’s community facilities, appearance, and protection of natural resources and open spaces, but revealed a need for addressing sustainability, retaining existing businesses, and both piped and wired/wireless infrastructures.
- Housing needs, promoting village centers, and pursuing development to grow the tax base are also potential topics of discussion.
- Chair Leavitt-Smith stated that there should be a joint meeting with the Zoning Commission and another with the Open Space Commission, as they are gate keepers for certain decisions that greatly impact the functionality of the Planning Commission.

**VII. GENERAL COMMISSION BUSINESS**

- Mr. McGregor stated that the Commissioners would be receiving a registration opportunity for the Connecticut Land Use Law for Municipal Land Use Boards and Commissions to learn and fulfill their annual four-hour requirement of continued education.
- Mr. McGregor informed the Commission that the Board of Selectmen have directed staff to draft a town ordinance prohibiting the sale of cannabis for 18 months, to allow for more community conversation.
- Chair Leavitt-Smith expressed gratitude for Savannah-Nicole Villalba’s service as the Assistant Town Planner, as the position is now open for applications and will be closing January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**VIII. CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Leavitt-Smith adjourned the meeting with no objection at 8:06 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Blaze  
Commission Clerk