

LONG BEACH WEST BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

The Mayor's Long Beach West Blue Ribbon Commission conducted a meeting on Wednesday, July 6, 2011 in room 213 of Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT pursuant to notice duly posted.

1. Call to Order: by Chairman Patrick Gribbon at 5:36 p.m.

COMMISSION MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Patrick Gribbon, Milan Bull, Morgan Kaolian, Edward Scinto, Marcia Stewart, Devin Santa; Non-Voting members: David Killeen – Town Planner, Carol Szymanski - DEP, Brian Carey – Conservation Officer,

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: John Zbell, Non-voting members Andrew French – US Fish & Wildlife, Sharon Marino – US Fish & Wildlife, Capt. Joseph McNeil – Stfd Police

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Audubon Connecticut rep. Sandy Breslin — Dir. Of Governmental Affairs

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED DURING MEETING:

- A “vision” for Long Beach West Stratford, Connecticut – authored by Andrew French
- PYE comments re: LBW — submitted by Marcia Stewart – PYE President
- Proposals — submitted by Morgan Kaolian, Patrick Gribbon, Carol Szymanski, Ed Scinto

2. Committee Reports: Homework assignment(5 minutes each) and the showing slides of “The Milford Beach Walkway”. LaRosa Construction comments on “design build”.

The assignment for the month was for each member of Commission to express their view/vision for Long Beach West. The following issues/concerns were stated:

- Valuable natural and public resource
- Abundant wildlife with concern for wildlife, Preservation of wildlife
- Valuable resource for restoring the Marsh (a.k.a. McKinney Wildlife Refuge), breach the beach for “flushing” the marsh
- Sanctuary, removal of invasive species
- No selling of LBW except to U.S. Fish and Wildlife
- No motorized vehicles
- Study all work that have been done previously
- Clarify what constitutes development and what is allowable
- Not ample parking
- Causeway
- Campsite, U.S. Coast Guard base, boating dock,
- Recreational facility, water taxi, ferry service, seasonal kayak/canoe rental, tours
- Low impact public access between dusk and dawn
- Web cam for security
- Comfort station, walkway, sewer service, tower for viewing

- Maintenance of any structure, maintenance of beach, clean up shells and sand
- Financial backing, funding projects
- Simple rustic improvements, fishing, temporary station for education

The slide presentation did not go forward.

3. Correspondence – Reading Reviews: Handout Original "Trust for Public Land" Fact sheet

Chairman Gribbon read a letter from Ms. Bradshaw re: her vision and wishes for Long Beach West — use of water for swimming and beach.

4. Committee Reports: Review by U.S. Fish & Wildlife, CT Department of environmental Protection on basic restrictions with the overview of the committee's presentations

Discussion ensued in connection with the following concerns/issues:

- Changing Ecosystem, wildlife and habitat conservation
- Restrictions for Nesting birds/endangered species,
- Zone V5 – restrictions for structures/improvements for storms of 3 feet or higher
- Previous potential sale of the property to US Fish and Wildlife
- Language for easements
- Funding
- Commissions end goal to present a consensus to the Mayor as to what Commission thinks should happen to Long Beach West.
- Commission's responsibility as an advisory Group

5. Old Business — None

6. New Business — No new business furnished.

7. Other — None

8. Adjournment — Hearing no other business, Mr. Gribbon entertained a motion to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.

UPON A MOTION BY MR. SCINTO AND SECONDED BY MS. STEWART, IT WAS VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

Respectfully submitted *Carol Cabral*
Carol Cabral, Secretary