CONNECTICUT RIVER GATEWAY COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 27, 2006

Present/*Absent*:		
	CHESTER	**Margaret Wilson,** *Christine Nelson*
	DEEP RIVER	**Amy Petrone, Nancy Fischbach**
	EAST HADDAM	**Logan Clarke***, Robert Boulware*
	ESSEX	**Fred Vollono***, Ed Marlowe*
	FENWICK	*Chuck Chadwick*
	HADDAM	*Scott Thompson,* **Susan Bement**
	LYME	*Kevin Mazer,* **J. Melvin Woody**
	OLD LYME	**Rudi Besier, Ted Crosby**
	OLD SAYBROOK	***Madge Fish,*** *David LeMay*
	CRERPA	**Steve Williams,**
	MIDSTATE RPA	*Raul De Brigard,* **Stasia DeMichele**
	DEP	**David Blatt**
	STAFF	**Linda Krause, Dorothy Papp**
	TIDEWATER	**Judy Preston**

Call to Order

Chairman Fred Vollono called the regular meeting of the Gateway Commission to order at 7:38 pm in the CRERPA meeting room.

Approval of Minutes

Nancy Fischbach moved to approve the minutes of May 25, 2006. Logan Clarke seconded. All were in favor.

Staff Report

Linda Krause requested that Staff Report be addressed as part of her update on the individual member towns.

Treasurer's Report

Peggy Wilson, Nancy Fischbach, and Logan Clarke presented their final suggested version of Gateway Policy Investment Guidelines. Fred Vollono asked if the document had come from a template. It is the result of reworking Guidelines Logan had originally done for Charter Oak. Fred commended the committee for their excellent work. There will need to be some rearranging of investments on Merrill Lynch's part which has already been discussed with them. **Rudi Besier moved to approve the guidelines as amended.** Fred Vollono seconded. All were in favor.

Peggy Wilson noted that the Commission had come to the end of another fiscal year and that next month there would reflect new budget numbers. Steve Williams asked if there were regulations regarding the payment of contracted bills in the absence of a quorum as in the case of the June meeting. After further discussion, **Fred Vollono**

moved in the event of no quorum or meeting, to authorize payment of bills at the discretion of two check signatories. Peggy Wilson seconded. All were in favor.

There were three bills due this month: June staffing to CRERPA for $722.85, June staffing to Tidewater for $1120, and June legal services to Paul Geraghty for $200. **Nancy Fischbach moved to pay June's bills.** Logan Clarke seconded. All were in favor.

Three bills were incurred for May services: May staffing to CRERPA for $1776.32, May staffing to Tidewater for $1120, and May legal services to Paul Geraghty for $2817.13. **Nancy Fischbach moved to approve payment of those bills.** Melvin Woody seconded. All were in favor.

Referrals

Linda asked to address referrals with her town updates.

Tidewater

Judy presented her June timesheet and relayed the significant progress she has made of late working out on the water with Margot Burns on the Riparian Buffers Grant. She also was pleased to announce that she had finally heard from the EPA that her Gateway area groundtruthing grant has been fully funded in the amount of $35,000.

Status of New Standards / Other Development Issues

Linda presented an update on the activities of each of the Gateway member towns which will be filed with these minutes. East Haddam has sent a draft of their proposed Gateway standards package though they have not yet set a hearing date. **Melvin Woody moved to send a letter from the Commission in favor of the proposal.** Nancy Fischbach seconded. All were in favor. Gateway representatives are encouraged to attend the meetings in their respective towns.

Fred Vollono agreed to see if he could encourage Essex to get the standards on their agenda in the near future.

Haddam sent two referrals to the Commission. One is on 16 Bridge Lane. Although a dip in the ground would appear to leave the viewshed from the river unchanged, the Commission could see no actual hardship. **Nancy Fischbach moved to send a letter stating as much.** Steve Williams seconded. All were in favor.

The second referral from Haddam was on Meadow Lane where the applicants had put in a new septic system a couple years ago out of the flood plain and by the time they had the money to apply for zoning and building permits, the regulations had increased the required setback from 50 to 100 feet, leaving them without sufficient room to build their home. They have agreed to turn the house to minimize the impact on the view from the river. **Logan Clarke moved to write a letter of support.** Nancy Fischbach seconded. All were in favor.

David Blatt reminded the Commission that the DEP/Sams enforcement hearing is scheduled to take place in Hartford in September. Though the Gateway was denied official status at the hearing, the hearing officer did say that the Gateway would be given an opportunity to be heard should they so desire. Fred Vollono will check his calendar with David and make every effort to attend.

Other/New Business

Nancy Fischbach asked if the recent Federal Supreme Court ruling on what constitutes wetlands will affect the Gateway. Linda explained Connecticut's own definition prevails so changes in federal definitions will likely have little or no consequence.

Peggy Wilson moved that the August meeting be cancelled due to the travel plans of so many members. Susan Bement seconded. All were in favor.

Linda Krause wondered if the Commission might be interested in changing their bylaws to afford RPA members to act as members from their towns of residence in the lack of a quorum (see memo). The matter will be taken up at the September meeting.

Logan Clarke moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15pm. Nancy Fischbach seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Papp

The next meeting of the Gateway Commission is Thursday, September 28, 2006