

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 2, 2019
MINUTES

PRESENT: Mark Nickerson, Kevin Seery, Rose Ann Hardy, Marc Salerno, Paul Dagle and Dan Cunningham

ALSO PRESENT: Finance Director Anna Johnson, Public Works Director Joe Bragaw, Senior Center Director Cathy Wilson

Mr. Nickerson called the meeting to order at 7:28 p.m. and asked Jack Lebeau, President of the Class of 2020, East Lyme High School, to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Nickerson reported that four students were in attendance from the High School's Contemporary Issues Class; Jack, who led the Pledge of Allegiance, Tracy, Sarah and Amelia. He welcomed these students and thanked them for coming to tonight's meeting.

1b. Additional Agenda and Consent Items

MOTION (1)

Mr. Seery MOVED to add an agenda item to be heard first under New Business as Agenda Item 2 for the purpose of approving an amendment to the Solid Waste Management Services Agreement between the SCRRA and the Town of East Lyme.

Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

1c. Delegations

Mr. Mike Shulz, Lovers Lane, stated that he attempted to watch the last Board of Finance meeting on Channel 22 and the video was playing but that the sound was not working. Mr. Nickerson acknowledged that the town is currently looking at replacing the sound system at Town Hall, but that he had not heard previously that there was a problem in broadcasting to Channel 22 and he will make note of it and report it to our IT department to investigate.

1d. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (2)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2019, as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

1e. Consent Calendar

MOTION (3)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of October 2, 2019, in the amount of \$666.10.

Seconded by Mrs. Hardy. Motion passed 6-0.

FILED

October 11, 2019 AT 5:05 AM/PM

Braedon Stearns AIC

EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

2. Approve an Amendment to the SCRRRA Agreement

DISCUSSION: Joe Bragaw, Director of Public Works stated that the Town is fortunate to be a part of SCRRRA, which consists of thirteen area towns, including East Lyme. Their Executive Board recently re-negotiated their contract and the facility is now moving to Lisbon but the town will be saving approximately 20% than what we are currently paying. Mrs. Hardy inquired as to whether this includes recycling, and Mr. Bragaw stated that recycling is a separate contract directly with Willimantic Waste. This agreement with SCRRRA only covers garbage pickup. He stated that the combined total of annual garbage collected between all thirteen towns is approximately 135 tons. Mrs. Hardy stated that should would like Mr. Bragaw to look into a recycling contract that will accept recycling items above the number 2, which is what our current company only accepts. Mr. Bragaw stated that he will look into it and report back at a later meeting, but that Willimantic Waste determines what specific items they will accept, and they are currently not taking glass and manually separate such items out at their plant. Mrs. Hardy inquired if the change in location will increase the mileage. Mr. Bragaw responded that it will increase slightly but that we are receiving a subsidy for the extra eight miles; as well as the fact that our trucks currently stand running in line waiting at the Preston site, and it is anticipated that in Lisbon there will be little to no waiting when dropping off. Mr. Salerno inquired if there will be a decrease in tipping fees. Mr. Bragaw stated that no because SCRRRA currently subsidizes the difference in fees, so they will see a reduction but we will remain the same, which is still a lower rate. Mr. Bragaw stated that he is the current Vice President of the Executive Board.

MOTION (4)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Amendment #5 to the Solid Waste Management Services Agreement between the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority and the Town of East Lyme and authorize the First Selectman to execute any and all documents necessary.

Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. Motion passed 6-0.

2a. Special Appropriation - \$69,000 CNRE COA 5310 Bus Grant

DISCUSSION: Cathy Wilson, Senior Center Director, spoke on this matter and stated that this is an annual DOT Grant, and this year there were ten applicants and only three received the grant so the Town is fortunate to have been chosen recipient. Once this process has gone through the approval process and gets favorable vote at Town Meeting, Mrs. Wilson will work with the DOT to get the bus ordered. Anticipated delivery date of said van is later summer or early fall of 2020. She explained that with this grant covers 80% of the cost and that the Town is responsible for 20%; last time a van was purchased, the cost was slightly over the amount approved, and the Parahus Account made up the difference. Mrs. Wilson explained that the Senior Center needs two working vans, and one backup van in order to provide all of the transportation needs of our senior citizens. Mr. Dagle inquired if the backup van could be sold once the new van arrives, and Mrs. Wilson stated that the vehicle would be transferred to the Public Works Department to decide if it still serves a reliable purpose for the Town. Mr. Nickerson reiterated that the senior center is not building a larger fleet and will maintain two vans and one backup van with the additional van being used somewhere else in town, determined by the Public Works Director.

MOTION (5)

Mr. Seery MOVED to appropriate \$69,000 in CNRE Fund 32 for the purchase of a new 12 passenger and 2 wheelchair bus to be utilized at the Senior Center – Delivery expected between July – October 2020 - to an account to be established titled, “COA DOT 5310 Bus” as follows:

\$55,200 from the Connecticut Department of Transportation 5310 Grant and to transfer the town’s share in the amount of \$13,800 from Fund 32 account number 32-70-300-500-100 (Town Project Allocations) and forward to the Board of Finance for approval. This requires a Town Meeting.

Seconded by Mrs. Hardy. Motion passed 6-0.

2b. Presentation by the Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Hardy introduced the members of the SustainableCT Subcommittee as Penny Howell Heller, Laura Ashburn, Harvey Beeman (who was not in attendance at tonight's meeting), and Don Danila. She requested that the Board allow all of the members present to interact with the Board of Selectmen to answer questions, etc., during and about the presentation. Ms. Heller addressed the Board and stated that the Board of Selectmen voted to participate in the SustainableCT program, and that is how this subcommittee was formed. She stated that they have been working on and submitted a final report, attached hereto as Exhibit 1, to SustainableCT, identifying ten action categories. It was noted that East Lyme received kudos from SustainableCT for the programs that we already have in place. Ms. Heller stated that the Town should include hazard mitigation plans for all projects, and Mr. Nickerson confirmed that the Costco Project and the I-95 Exit 74 DOT project both have mitigation plans filed, and that the town made sure of that. Ms. Heller reported that the Town did not receive any points for a climate change plan because no goals were noted. Mr. Nickerson stated that the Town has definitely taken measures regarding climate change and requested that the subcommittee look into this further before doing any unnecessary work, and for the Town to receive credit for the work already done. Ms. Heller stated that Laura Ashburn start a "complete street" campaign which fits under Topic #5. Initial discussion was to consider marking the streets in areas where there is room for bike and/or walking space on the road. Mr. Nickerson stated that they should attend or at least get in touch with the citizens group which has organized a community taskforce to talk about traffic concerns around town. They are calling themselves a traffic advisory council, and all community members are welcome to participate. Ms. Heller stated that a pedestrian audit as been performed by Ms. Ashburn and the group of student volunteers from Eastern Connecticut State University, and some target areas have been identified, such as Fairhaven Road in the area of the railroad bridge going into Crescent Beach and Black Point area, that would benefit from painting the roads or having signs placed. Regarding Topic #7, Strategic and Inclusive Public Services, the Farmer's Market was spoken highly of, and they did have recommendations for an expanded Market, including more communications between community groups. Ms. Heller reported that they would be attending a Grant Writing Workshop here at Town Hall on Thursday, October 3rd, noting that only towns have been certified through SustainableCT, such as East Lyme, are eligible for applying for these grants so they will be working on getting those applications in as soon as possible. She reported that only 20-30 towns are currently certified, so East Lyme is ahead of the pack. Mr. Nickerson thanked Ms. Heller and the whole subcommittee for their hard work and noted that there are some great opportunities for improvement that have been identified. He also wanted to make note that all grant money is from private funding and not State funds. Mr. Seery stated that he did not see anything mentioned about the tree box filters installed in various locations around town; Ms. Heller stated that the Town received a lot of points for this initiative. Ms. Ashburn addressed the Board and stated that the group of students from Eastern were phenomenal and such a pleasure to work with. Ms. Heller reported that East Lyme has gained Bronze Level status, and that only Hartford and Greenwich have achieved the Silver or top level. Mr. Salerno inquired as to the dollar amount of grants that we qualify for, and Ms. Heller responded that they would have more information after tomorrow's workshop. Ms. Heller asked the Board if they had any ideas for where such grant money could be spent, and Mr. Nickerson stated that he did and looks forward to getting together after the workshop to discuss it further. Mr. Nickerson stated that he looks forward to hearing more about their ideas on road painting, to which Ms. Heller stated that for example, they discussed simply painting a white line on narrower roads for a walking/biking area, or painting a message such as "share the road". Mr. Nickerson also pointed out that the Town recently got a grant in conjunction with the DOT to look into making Flanders Road safer and add sidewalks; that study will be starting after the completion of the I-95 bridge. Ms. Hardy reported that under Topic #7, the school system instituted a summer meal program, but discontinued it after no children utilized the program. She would like them to explore this as part of that Topic; and she looks forward to a future report from this subcommittee and to please let the Board of Selectmen know if they can assist in any way.

2c. 2020 Census Complete Count Committee

DISCUSSION: Mr. Nickerson stated that at the direction of Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz, we are directed to establish this committee and appoint people as necessary in preparation for the 2020 Census. Most important is for people to understand that the census is only to gather a headcount of people in our community, and that no formal reporting other than number of people will go to the government. The general rule to follow is where you put your head on your pillow on April 1, 2020 is where you will be counted. On April 1st the process will start as an online survey, then it will progress to a mailing, and the last step will be a door-to-door survey. Mrs. Hardy inquired as to if the prison population is counted as East Lyme residents, and Mr. Nickerson stated that yes, they will be counted as part of the East Lyme community. More information on this Complete Count Committee and the Census itself can be found at www.census.gov. Mr. Nickerson noted that the Census is pivotal in the government determining the amount of financial assistance our community will receive based on our population, so it is crucial that everyone participate.

MOTION (6)

Mr. Seery MOVED to authorize the First Selectman to appoint people as necessary to the 2020 Census Complete Count Committee.

Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

2d. Ordinance – Board of Police Commissioners

DISCUSSION: Mr. Nickerson stated that this is just a discussion to consider removing the First Selectman from the Board of Police Commissioners. Currently, the First Selectman is a voting member of the seven-member board, and Mr. Nickerson, with the approval of the Board of Police Commissioners, is recommending that the First Selectman be removed and becomes an ex-officio member, as with other boards and commissions. This would leave an additional spot for a community member to sit on the Board. He stated that the ordinance was written this way because at the time the Town still operated under the State Resident Trooper program. Now that the Police Department is independent and operating under a Chief of Police for the past two years, he feels as though it is time to make the change. He noted that the State Statute allows for a three, five- or seven-member board, but he recommends staying at a seven-member board. Mr. Seery stated that he agrees with this change, and also recommends staying at seven members. Mr. Salerno is also in agreement with this change and stated that there was a lot of interest from the public in membership so there should be no problem filling the open spot. Mrs. Hardy requested that the matter be tabled until the next meeting in order to give her and the other Board members time to review it more. Mr. Nickerson stated that he would direct the Town Attorney to bring a draft of the modified ordinance to the next meeting.

3a. Ex-Officio Reports

Mr. Dagle reported on the Public Safety Building Committee. He stated that two concepts were submitted by the architect firm, plus a need's assessment. The committee is taking time to review the documentation and is scheduled to meet again on Monday the 7th. He reported that the Committee is committed to staying within budget to get the building ready and move the Police and EOC in as soon as possible. On Monday the 31st a suicide prevention forum was held at the East Lyme High School. There were two outstanding presenters and a representative from the Waterford Youth Services group on hand. There was great participation and discussion; it is so important to get the word out and opening discuss mental health, especially with our youth. Youth participation in this field needs to improve and is always welcome. Mr. Nickerson stated that this forum is important to our Town and gives a great opportunity to open up the discussion. Thank you to all involved.

Mr. Cunningham reported that the Brookside Farm Museum will be holding an event on Columbus Day, Explore History Day. It will be held from 11:00 a.m. 1:00 p.m. They are planning new exhibits and outdoor activities for the young folks. Stop by and see what's new at Brookside Farm Museum. He reported that the Historic Properties Commission is working on getting plaques placed at all of the historic properties in town.

Mr. Salerno reported that the Planning Commission had no public hearings but had a discussion on POCD; they are preparing a survey to send out to residents and expect that to go out by 2020. It will be an online survey and they will present it to the Board of Selectmen once they have it more organized. They are also looking into possibly having a table set up on election day. He also reported that the Walkability Subcommittee is working on a plan for sidewalks around town. Mr. Nickerson stated that the Public Works office has done an in-depth sidewalk survey recently and they should inquire with that department before going any further with this subcommittee. Mr. Dagle reported that the survey was done in 2010.

Mrs. Hardy reported that she arrived late to the Board of Education meeting as they had moved the meeting time and she was unaware. Mr. Seery is the ex-officio for October. The Zoning Commission heard the matter of the amateur HAM radio tower on Heritage Drive, and the vote failed for the second time due to a 3-3 tie. There are no other towers in a 50-60 mile radius. The nay votes were due to fear of devaluation of neighboring properties, although the test balloon that was floated to where the top of the tower would be was not visible by surrounding properties, they still felt it was not good for the neighborhood. The yay votes felt that it served a public need and that it was not visible. Mr. Nickerson reported that an appeal has been filed and will be heard in the appellate court. The Commission for Conservation of Natural Resources will be presenting information at the next Board of Selectmen meeting, and information will be sent out in advance for review.

3b. Mr. Nickerson reported that an East Lyme resident, Patricia Shaw, lost her life to the EEE virus. A very nice gathering was held at St. Mattias, and we all send our condolences to her family. He reported that he has been meeting with Public Health, the CDC and Ledge Light Health District once or twice a week to communicate about the threat to our community. This threat has been around for many years, with only one death reported in 2013, so it took all of these agencies by surprise this year. Although it is too late to take measure now, such as spraying, they are already planning for what will be done in the spring to try to prevent this from happening next year. Personal protection is your best defense until the threat has passed after the first hard frost. Some do go into hibernation, so planning in advance for the spring is top priority for these agencies. He reported that the Traffic Advisory Council met and had a great discussion; there were lots of ideas shared, and kindness and respect will be the key message that they would like to get out. He attended the 50th Anniversary of the Christian Harvest Fellowship Church, and reported that they own a piece of property on North Bridebrook Road that they have been fundraising for in order to build on that property. He attended a dedication at the Niantic Fire House for Bud Lamourine, who served our community as a Firefighter for 61 years and who was loved by all. The Niantic House built a patio and dedicated to him; it was a nice tribute to him and his family. The annual breast cancer walk is coming up this weekend, and our Main Street is painted in pink in honor of this walk and breast cancer month. The Oysterfest is coming up on Saturday, October 12th. There will be no admission this year, and lots of activities and food. If you would like to participate in the golf ball drop, please go online to the Miracle League of SECT to purchase your golf balls. Mr. Nickerson reported that he is scheduled to attend a hearing of the FOI Commission in Hartford. East Lyme is the first town to petition this court for Relief from Vexatious Requesters, which is a new Connecticut State law that went into effect this past year. The Town is in the process of producing a recycling video for the community to outline "trash can etiquette". It is important to note that if you throw recyclable items in the trash, the Town will get charged for that so please make sure to put your recycles in the proper bin and be on the look for this video as well as new stickers outlining the proper etiquette to be put on your recycle bins. Mr. Nickerson reported that Father Tony will

be performing his annual Blessing of the Animals on the green next to St. John's church on Sunday morning, so bring your pets out if you would like them blessed. He will be attending a meeting for planning of the June 2020 Opsail event, which is the tall ship parade that will be entering Niantic Bay. The Navy is also scheduled to beach one of its amphibious vehicles, so this will again be a fun and exciting event for our community. The Public Safety Building Committee will be meeting on Monday to review the proposals received from the architect, and work to get a plan together that fits our budget. The proposals include a big wish list and will be reviewed, and priorities will be placed on items. The most important thing to get done is to get the Police and EOC into the new building as soon as possible and within budget. He stated that Mr. Dagle is the Chairman on that Committee, and he stated that he and the Committee are doing a great job of working on this. Mrs. Hardy stated that it is important to note that if the project is over budget but there are things that are necessary in order to move the Police and EOC in, the Committee needs to come back to the Boards of Selectmen and Finance to discuss.

4. Public Comment

Ms. Camille Alberti, Darrows Court, addressed the Board and requested a report of diversity of the current Police Commission, and also what the plan is for creating more diversity going forward as new members are appointed. Also, she requested an explanation of the large gap between the number the architect brought to the PSB Committee versus the \$2.2 million budgeted amount.

Mr. Mike Shulz, Lovers Lane, addressed the Board and thanked the Board for the update on the Public Safety Building Committee progress. He stated that he is not pleased with the nonsense that he has been seeing online. He asked who the Police Commission would report to if the First Selectman is removed from that Commission. He also asked for an update on the Board of Education lawsuit; if it has been settled, the amount of the settlement and what the attorney's fees were.

5. Selectmen's Response

Mr. Nickerson responded to Mr. Schulz's question about the BoE lawsuit by stating that Mr. Shulz would have to address that question directly to the Board of Education. Regarding who oversees the Police Commission, he responded that each commission acts on their own. The Police Commission oversees the Chief of Police, just as the Board of Education oversee the Superintendent of Schools. As with all of the other commissions, the Police Commission should have an ex-officio member from the Board of Selectmen, and that is the plan by changing the ordinance and removing the First Selectman, and will put this commission in line with all of the other commissions. In order to amend the ordinance, this matter will eventually go to public hearing so that the community has a say in the process. Regarding Ms. Alberti's questions; the plan submitted by the architect is a plan to renovate the building as new so there are many items included that are not necessary to prepare the building and move the Police and EOC over. The Committee is well aware of the \$2.2 million budget and will stay within that budget for this first phase. He stated that the Board of Finance reduced the amount by \$1 million with the understanding that they could come back before the town to get that \$1 million reinstated if necessary, and that will happen if the money is needed to get them moved in. Although he agrees with Mrs. Hardy's feelings that we should spend what we need to spend to get the job done, he does not feel that the public will be amenable to that and the plan is to get them moved over within the allotted budget. As far as the diversity of the Police Commission, new members will be appointed in January along with all of the other board and commission appointments, so this is something that will be addressed over the next couple of months.

6. Executive Session

MOTION (7)

Mr. Seery MOVED to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel issues and updates.

Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

The Board entered into executive session at 9:26 p.m. and returned at 9:39 p.m. and Mr. Seery reported that no formal votes were taken during executive session.

MOTION (8)

Mr. Seery MOVED to adjourn the October 2, 2019, regular meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen at 9:40 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Anderson
Recording Secretary

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SUMMARIZING the SUBMISSION FOR CERTIFICATION
For the TOWN of EAST LYME in the
SUSTAINABLE CT PROGRAM

Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources
Sustainable CT Subcommittee

Penny Howell Heller

Laura Ashburn

Harvey Beeman

October 2, 2019

Sustainable CT Program – Summary of Goals

- An online framework for logistical support to CT town officials looking to implement a range of economic, environmental and cultural improvements and attractions.
- Program provides grant opportunities to fund infrastructure and transportation projects, protect the environment, and create efficiencies in housing and public services.
- Program is coordinated by Eastern Connecticut State University Institute for Sustainable Energy, and funded by three CT nonprofits: the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation, Common Sense Fund, and Hampshire Foundation (providing more than \$250,000 for small grants to towns for climate and energy-related projects).
- Each participating town becomes certified when at least one of many listed actions is completed in each of nine different program aspects (see list below). Higher certification levels are earned when more actions are completed.
- To date more than 34 towns, including Waterford and Groton, have signed on to the program; fewer have completed their certification process.
- Goals of the program are to save towns money by helping to improve energy efficiency, promote partnerships within and among towns, and assist with planning tools that help avoid expensive infrastructure damage during storms and power outages.

An article in *The New London Day* discussed more details about the program: ([NL, Groton eye recognition in program on sustainability](#) , By Benjamin Kail, Day Staff Writer, Jan 25, 2018).

SUSTAINABLE CT ACTION CATEGORIES (See: <https://sustainablect.org/actions>)

1. Thriving Local Economies
 2. **Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources**
 3. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems
 4. Dynamic and Resilient Planning
 5. Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices
 6. Efficient Physical Infrastructure and Operations
 7. Strategic and Inclusive Public Services
 8. Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing
 9. Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts
 10. Innovation Actions
-

The Sustainable CT team (subcommittee of the Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources) submitted the East Lyme Profile August 28, 2019.

Summary of Completed Actions by Topic:

1. **Thriving Local Economies- 4 actions:** brown field remediation; Main Street program; sponsored business events; adopted C-Pace
2. **Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources-11 actions:** watershed education; local monitoring programs; open space program; water conservation education; LID education and website; guides for developers; LID in POCD & PZR; tree filters; Hole-in-the Wall maintenance plan; pest BMP
3. **Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems-1 action:** ‘Discover EL” pamphlet on web
4. **Dynamic and Resilient Planning-6 actions:** sustainability language in PZR; agriculture regulations and education; community garden; hazard mitigation plan; became CLG
5. **Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices- 2 actions:** Complete Street training; *Bike accessibility audit (which did not pass review)*
6. **Efficient Physical Infrastructure and Operations- 1 action:** LED streetlights
7. **Strategic and Inclusive Public Services -5 actions:** public talks/programs on nitrogen reduction to waterways, Bike&BBQ event to support historic properties, beach cleanup, farmers market; food accessibility audit; waste calculation posted on web; recycling additional materials; tobacco free parks
8. **Healthy, Efficient and Diverse Housing – 4 actions:** expanded housing profile; created housing needs assessment & discussed at planning meeting; increased affordable housing
9. **Inclusive and Equitable Community Impacts- 1 action:** applied “equity tool kit” to Food Accessibility Audit
10. **Innovative Actions- 2 actions:** improved accessibility to Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve with innovative bridge; *ran pump out program in Niantic River (which did not pass review)*

Recommendations

Topic 1: Thriving Local Economies

Participate in and promote the C-Pace Program

- Work with the Connecticut Green Bank on outreach events to property owners.

Topic 2: Well-Stewarded Land and Natural Resources

Prioritize future land acquisitions based on the criteria listed in the EL Open Space Plan:

- Protect upstream water supplies to maximize the quality and quantity of drinking water at the lowest cost by preventing contamination. Encumber funds to purchase undeveloped land, development rights, or easements north of existing Town wells.

- Designate significantly larger “Aquifer Protection Zones” surrounding each narrowly defined State “Aquifer Protection Area” for each Town well.
- Ensure that hazard mitigation plans are included in all roadway modifications carried out by the Town or CT Department of Transportation.
- Acquire, by purchase or easement with public access, the remaining acreage of open land adjacent to the northern boundary of Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve.

Topic 4: Dynamic and Resilient Planning

Climate Vulnerability Assessment Priorities:

- Complete critical roadway alterations and drainage improvements for emergency access and climate adaptation as listed in the Stantec Outcomes Report.
- Encourage living shorelines in lieu of hardened armoring through grants or tax abatement.

Topic 5: Clean and Diverse Transportation Systems and Choices

Promote Public transit and Other Mobility Strategies

- Implement a pedestrian and bicycle audit in order to develop “Complete Streets” projects where vehicle traffic patterns are a safety hazard.

Topic 7: Strategic and Inclusive Public Services

East Lyme Community Food Choices and Assessment:

- Create an intentional communications strategy among agencies, schools, Town departments, faith communities, etc. to increase the effectiveness of identifying needs as well as keeping officials informed as a way to impact policy.
 - Increase the capacity of programs that deliver food to residents who cannot drive or do not have a private vehicle.
 - Expand participation in the Niantic Farmers Market to increase residents’ access to fresh local food by facilitating the use of SNAP credit and creating a children’s Farmer’s Market Program.
 - Create a summer meal program for children through an official summer lunch or breakfast program; expand summer gardening programs through more community gardens in easily assessable locations in Town.
-