

**EASTERN NORWALK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

January 10, 2007

Minutes

Board Member Attendees: Laurel Lindstrom (president), Sarah Hunter, Gordon Tully, Erik Nees, David Park, Maribeth Becker,

Board Members Absent: Diane Cece

Advisory Board Member Attendees: Marija Bryant, Nick Overall

Other Attendees: Lisa Rivieccio

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM.
2. Public Participation – none at this time
3. Minutes
 - a. December 13, 2006 Minutes accepted.
 - b. November 8, 2006 Minutes tabled
4. President's Report – Laurel Lindstrom
 - a. Presented information on non-profits workshops
 - b. Proposed budget –Presented and discussed process of using “in-kind” line items in lieu of submitting bills only to then have to pay ourselves back. “In-kind” allows for documentation without excessive paperwork. Regarding our budget information, the End Of Year cutoff date is very important for Non-Profit organizations such as ours. David Park resigned as Treasurer in November but agrees to continue to have his address used as mailing address for member contribution checks.
5. Regular Business:
 - a. Watch List Properties
 - i. **73 Strawberry Hill Ave. (old Fitch School):** No real news, but there may be a plan review coming up with P & Z as soon as 1/11. Agenda to be checked.
 - ii. **93 East Avenue updates:** Marija and Maribeth explained this is a lengthy battle going on in court. The attorney, who is arguing against the property becoming National Register, is also the person who set the precedent for more historic preservation “reach”. NPT is the lead on the argument, but state didn't come into the process early enough to really help out.
 - iii. **Wall Street (Parcel 3):** There was a discussion of what potential the Wall Street area has for National Register District.
 - iv. **There is an 1880's house on 4th Street**, which is Italianate in style and currently has a demolition notice on it.
 - b. Neighborhood Issues/Committees
 - i. **Zoning & Master Plan:** Laurel Lindstrom provided update on the Westport Ave. & Main Ave. The consultant (Phillips Preiss Shapiro Associates) has not gotten back to the advisory committee (on which Laurel sits) with information yet. Laurel and Marija met with the Consultant who is drafting the Master Plan (Chan Krieger & Associates) to re-emphasis the importance of unique neighborhoods throughout Norwalk. Essentially, the Planning Commission is reprocessing the mini-plans. The Planning Commission is the consultant's client in effect. The possibility of an Architectural Review board being a part of the Master Plan hasn't been discussed to the degree that we feel it should be. It may be

that misunderstanding the nature of how a review board works and what authority they do or don't possess is a roadblock to its creation.

- ii. **Speeding & Traffic:** David Park wrote to Hal Alvord to get an update on budget money for traffic calming. He also sent a similar letter to Chief Rilling reinforcing the continued importance of Strawberry Hill speeding issues, while thanking him for all the good work we've been seeing on this.
 - iii. **Neighborhood Flooding:** The neighbors have spent \$120,000 on repairs. There was a meeting with flooding victims and those living in the area, and Hal Alvord. The Master Plan needs to be accomplished for reasons like the flooding issue, i.e. determining by needs in what order money should be spent to deal with things like maintenance as a priority.
- c. Mayor's Neighborhood Preservation Committee Report – Laurel Lindstrom said there was a presentation by Robert Maslin, Assistant Corporation Counsel. She will get printouts of complaints registered with Customer Service department at City Hall. There is a good tracking system in place for review. At meetings there are reminders to citizens like “please clear snow around fire hydrants” and such. The suggestion is made that we get these blurbs from meetings and include them in our correspondence with neighbors, either emails or newsletters. (See minutes from MNPC meeting posted on ENNA website)
 - d. CNNA Report – Maribeth Becker.
 - i. Maribeth told us about the presentation made by Spinnaker on the Reed Putnam project. There are proposals to improve the mixed use design to tie in better to existing neighborhoods. The design will have the parking closer to highway, and a trolley car is in consideration.
 - e. NPT Report – Marija Bryant
 - i. 93 East Avenue property dispute is still in court. NPT is in fund raising mode now.
 - f. Trees, Landscape & Adopt-A-Spots – Nick Overall
 - i. Ludlow Square and Cemetery could have potential for something nice to be there as a green space. Wants to pursue the possibility of a grant if it could qualify as a National Scenic Byway. We can reference the Guilford Town Green case discussed in his latest email. There is possibility for a pedestrian experience, and slowing traffic before the intersection. Nick will contact the State of CT DOT and Chris Perone to get more information on possibilities.
 - ii. Veterans Park is slated for a mini-golf course for profit and a possible amphitheatre. There was an RFP on this, but it is lacking in detail. This is not something mentioned in the Master Plan as last developed. This appears to have no Public Hearing date set, but the amphitheater would be paid for from the capital budget. When can there be comment from neighbors? We will set up a meeting with Mike Mocciaie to discuss this project, and determine if there is a long term view of parks within a master plan.
 - g. Other:
 - i. Newsletter: If done, winter newsletter will be a 1 page document, and likely we'll distribute in b/w, not color. The theme would be to show that the ENNA is making things happen with examples.

6. Other Business

- a. Planning for 2007: We will discuss ENNA budget plan in detail at later date.

7. Next regular board meeting: Wednesday February 14, 2007.

8. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM