

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

**November 8, 2006
Minutes**

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

Absent: David Park

Advisory board members: Marija Bryant (for West Avenue presentation only)

Others:

Present for Presentation and Board Meeting: Stanley Seligson and his team, Diane Cece, Donna Rastocky, Lisa Rivieccio, Jerry Curti, Tim Monroe, Lauren Klein (Advocate reporter),

Present for Presentation only: Daisy Franklin, Tod Bryant, a few others who didn't sign attendance sheet.

1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM
2. Presentation of the conceptual proposal by Seligson Properties of the West Avenue Plan
 - a. Presented by Richard Heaps of Streetworks consultant to developer.
 - b. Presentation indicates that the ENNA's input has been well considered and largely incorporated.
 - c. Neighbor's post-presentation questions:
 - i. What happens to Orchard Street? Asked by Tod Bryant. Changes explained by Richard Heaps of Streetworks.
 - ii. How can historic homes be saved? Discussion ensued.
3. Acceptance by Board of revised meeting minutes for September 13, 2006 and October 11, 2006
4. Reports
 - a. Treasurer's Report – David Park
 - i. Paperwork and reports have been handed off to David Park, the new Treasurer.
 - ii. No report in David's absence
 - b. President's Report – Laurel Lindstrom
 - i. Westport/Main Avenue Corridor Plan information printout is circulated by Laurel. All this information has gone to the consultant for review. A copy is on file with P&Z. In 3 weeks, the consultant will be back with a new draft which will have incorporated the comments. Neighbors can make comments at public hearing that will be scheduled.
 - ii. Liberty Square grant offer has been rescinded by the Redevelopment Agency because neighbors, business owners are not able to meet requirements for the grant. A copy of the letter to Timothy Sheehan is circulated at the meeting.
 - iii. December meeting will focus on flooding. Hal Alvord, Director of Public Works has agreed to attend and other officials will be invited as part of the forum panel of guest speakers.
 - iv. Significant Neighborhood Issues such as Speeding/Traffic, Flooding and Zoning are being followed by the ENNA structured as committees, formally or informally. In some cases board members have agreed to chair these committees.

5. Election of Director
 - a. Diane Cece unanimously voted onto Board as a voting member
 - b. Wendye Pardue is moving out of ENNA area and is stepping down from the Board. Wendye was thanked by the Board for her service.

6. Regular Business:
 - a. Watch List properties
 - i. 73 Strawberry Hill Avenue “Old Fitch School”: Currently no news.
 - ii. 93 East Avenue: The Demolition Delay is still in place. There was a Public Hearing through the Norwalk Historical Commission. Laurel attended the November 1st state historic preservation meeting in Hartford. The ENNA letter to the State Historic Commission was circulated at the meeting.
 - b. Neighborhood Issues/Committees
 - i. Speeding
 1. We are waiting for more information from the City on the “Safe Routes to School” program for Strawberry Hill Avenue. A consultant has not yet been hired, but money has been set aside.
 - ii. Flooding
 1. The Lockwood/Buckingham neighbors have closely followed the Tighe and Bond Study. One of the main points Hal Alvord says the reports make is that drainage pipes are just too small. In the meeting they had with Hal Alvord and the Public Works Committee it was clear that the City is not willing to talk about costs to fix yet.
 2. There is also a City suggestion that the MetroNorth culvert is a contributing factor in flooding issues. Stew Leonards has admitted that its parking lot run off goes to Buckingham, and that in 1998 when it was built, a study by the City was not done that would have indicated the imminent problem. Gordon Tully suggested that the Coastal Area Management Act impacts decisions for all flooding issues within this certain area. The City should have assessed the system, and it is questionable if the parking for Stews was approved without being approved by Conservation commission. Diane Cece would like CNNA to coordinate a Citywide approach to flooding and reporting of flooding problems. Flooding and studies may be brought up by Laurel at the Mayor’s Neighborhood Preservation Committee.
 - c. Mayor’s Neighborhood Preservation Committee – Laurel Lindstrom.
 - i. Today’s subcommittee meeting of the MNPC was largely a discussion of how to increase the effectiveness of the monthly meetings.
 - d. CNNA Report – Maribeth Becker
 - a. Discussed lack of a Master Plan and desire to figure out way to best help re: flooding.
 - e. Historic Preservation – discussed earlier in agenda
 - f. Trees, Landscape and Adopt-a-Spots – no report in Nick Overall’s absence
 - g. Newsletter and Website – no new information

7. Other Business – none

8. Next regular board meeting: December 13, 2006.

9. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Submitted by: Sarah Hunter