

**CITY OF NORWALK**  
**MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**  
**NOVEMBER 2, 2005**

**ATTENDANCE:** Mayor Alex Knopp, Chairman; Tom Closter; Michael Moccia; Police Chief Harry Rilling; Deputy Police Chief Mark Palmer; Cheryl Vallerie; David Shockley; Pam Stark; Don Nelson; Fred Eshraghi, DPW; Connie Blair, Customer Service.

**OTHERS:** Laurel Anderson; Katherine Griffing & Jim Clark, Golden Hill Association; Moravia Langley, Meadow Gardens; Al Raymond, Kristin Jordan, Spring Hill/Hospital; Dorothy & John Romanelli, Harbor Shores; Laurel Lindstrom, Eastern Norwalk Neighborhood Association; Bob Wagman, CNNA; Janet Brown, Aiken Street; Helen Bryan, West Main Street.

The meeting was called to order at 10 a.m. by Mr. Shockley.

**REVIEW & APPROVE OCTOBER 5 MEETING MINUTES**

The following corrections were made: Minutes were submitted by Ms. Lindstrom with various changes/heading additions, deletions, etc.

- \*\* **MRS. ROMANELLI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.**
- \*\* **MRS. GRIFFING SECONDED.**
- \*\* **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

At 10:05 a.m., the Chairman arrived at the meeting and introduced Mr. Eshraghi, who will be working on long term traffic management issues for the City, particularly traffic calming measures on road not eligible for speed humps.

**GOLDEN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

Mr. Clark said applications have been submitted for the Neighborhood Centers Improvement Program. The Chairman noted that this relates to CDBG applications.

Mr. Clark said all of the merchants are on board. They have a resolution of support from the Second Taxing District as well. They also met with the State DOT and will coordinate future activities.

Mr. Clark said that the stairway from Summitt to Taylor Avenue has been an ongoing concern. They had a good meeting with Rocky Tavello, who agreed to keep it cleaned

quarterly. There is brush along the side that needs to be cleaned out. Mr. Clark requested that this be done by Public Works.

Stonehouse Productions: Mr. Clark said that the Food Network came to his street to do a segment of a show. It was a wonderful community happening. Mr. Shockley and Ms. Stark assisted in this.

The Chairman next introduced Ms. Blair and discussed the services provided by her department. The number is 854-3200.

### **EASTERN NORWALK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Ms. Lindstrom said they submitted a proposal for Liberty Square. Property owners are enthusiastic but have reservations. The property owners should gain momentum if they do receive funding. The state is involved as relates to the DOT.

Ms. Lindstrom said they received a call from Stonehouse Productions, as well for a textbook and video, and filmed a recent block party on Raymond Terrace.

#### **SPEEDING CARS ON STRAWBERRY HILL AVENUE AND LOWER GREGORY BOULEVARD**

Mr. Shockley said this will be given to Mr. Eshraghi in terms of a traffic study. Mr. Eshraghi will take a speed count and look into installing a 25 m.p.h. sign.

#### **STORM DRAINS ON LUDLOW MANOR**

Ms. Blair said Mr. Linnartz said that storm drains are not in this year's budget.

#### **INADEQUATE SIDEWALKS BY MARVIN SCHOOL**

Ms. Blair said pedestrians are encouraged to walk on one side of the street. If it is widened, there would be an encroachment problem and direct pedestrians to a different walkway. They were designed this way when the school was built.

#### **VISIBILITY ON MYRTLE STREET AT STRAWBERRY HILL AVE**

Mr. Eshraghi said there needs to be a sight line study conducted.

### **LACK OF SAFE CYCLING AND NEED FOR ADDITIONAL SIGNS**

Ms. Lindstrom said this would have to be a city-wide initiative. Mr. Eshraghi said that on Gregory Boulevard, they can reduce the speed from 25 mph to 15 mph. The Chairman said that, hopefully, they can find grant funds for cycling signage and bike racks.

### **EAST NORWALK TRAIN STATION PEDESTRIAN LIGHTING AND SAFETY CONCERNS**

The Chairman said that Chief Rilling and Public Works would conduct a study of pedestrian safety and he has requested additional enforcement from 6 to 9 a.m. on East Avenue. The Chairman spoke of expected improvements to be made, including widening the road. Ms. Lindstrom said that Mr. Linnartz had told her that the road would not be widened. Deputy Chief Palmer said additional enforcement will start this week, but probably not in that exact area.

### **HARBOR SHORES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

#### **REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF PARKING ISSUES AND PARKING DIRECTIONAL SIGNS AT WOODWARD PARK**

Mr. Mocciaie said he walked the Park yesterday. Work will start today.

Mrs. Romanelli asked about parking. Mr. Eshraghi and Mr. Shockley will meet with Mrs. Romanelli.

### **MEADOW STREET**

Ms. Langley said speeding has slowed down but still occurs. White line signs would be helpful; Deputy Chief Palmer will look into this.

#### **PROGRESS AT MEADOW STREET PARK**

Ms. Langley said that work is underway and everyone is excited.

### **BROAD RIVER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

No one from this association was present. Mr. Shockley spoke of his meeting with the DOT.

#### **STATUS OF PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR WENDY'S RESTAURANT AND NEIGHBORING BUSINESSES TO HAVE FENCING OR SCREENING TO BLOCK NOISE, HEADLIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES FROM THE RESIDENTIAL AREAS ON PONUS AVENUE**

Deputy Chief Palmer said no complaints have been received. The police do maintain extra observation.

### **WEST MAIN STREET**

Mrs. Bryan spoke of bricks at the end of the street from work being done. The man who owns the house will be informed that this is an encroachment onto City property. This issue was given to Ms. Blair for follow-up.

Regarding the school bus, Mrs. Bryan said that the car is parked there intermittently.

### **SPRING HILL/HOSPITAL AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

#### **OCTOBER 22 COMMUNITY INVOLVED NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP REVIEW**

Mr. Raymond thanked Mr. Shockley for his efforts and Mayor Knopp for getting the things left behind taken care of. Mayor Knopp said there needs to be clear communication on when items are left out for pickup.

#### **SPEEDING CARS CONTROL MEASURES FOR MAPLE, STUART AND GRANDVIEW AVENUE**

Mr. Raymond said that, in April, they were told that they would get the trailer with the speed sign but that has not yet happened. Deputy Chief Palmer said that would be scheduled through Public Works. Mr. Eshraghi said he would take care of this.

Mayor Knopp said that the principal of Jefferson School feels that the improvements made this year have made a huge difference.

Mayor Knopp said a 13-year old child from Tracey Street submitted a petition for speed humps, which Mayor Knopp distributed. This is a very nice civic project.

Mr. Raymond said he submitted a letter in September regarding speed bumps on Girard. This was forwarded to Mr. Alvord and Mr. Mauro but there has been no response. Ms. Jordan spoke of the necessity for speed bumps and submitted a petition with signatures from every resident of this street. Mayor Knopp said they do ten streets per year. Requests are referred to Mr. Eshraghi, a traffic count is taken and it is then put on the eligibility list. The list of eligible street will then be prioritized.

Mr. Raymond said that, in May, during the Mayor's Walk, they brought up parking on Girard Street, and they were told there would be "no parking" signs from Spring Hill to Dover on the right side and the beginning of Girard. Again, nothing has happened. Mayor Knopp said there is a huge backlog. They now have additional staff. Ms. Blair will research.

Mr. Raymond said there are complaints about the condition of the sidewalks on Spring Hill. They are either overgrown with brush or broken up. Mayor Knopp said unless they are city sidewalks, they are the responsibility of the home owner to maintain.

Mr. Raymond said at the intersection of Benedict and Stuart, it is a five-way intersection and the stop sign is tiny and drivers fly through it. Mr. Eshraghi will follow up. Mr. Raymond said poles with reflectors are terrific; Mayor Knopp said these are starting to be used in Norwalk as well.

Mr. Shockley inquired about the status of the commercial truck at 25 Leuvine Street. Deputy Chief Palmer said this is registered as a combination vehicle.

### **WILTON AVENUE**

#### **3-WAY STOP AT INTERSECTION OF HORTON & WILTON AVENUE**

Deputy Chief Palmer inquired about the status of this 3-way stop. Mr. Mauro has said it does not warrant a three-way stop sign.

Deputy Chief Palmer said they are trying to eliminate parking on one side of Girard Street; Mr. Eshraghi will follow up.

### **CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Ms. Blair said they have three full time staff and the Call Center should be fully operational within a month. She asked Mr. Raymond to provide her with the house number he had referred to regarding the brush problem so she can follow up.

Mayor Knopp asked about the status of the walk-in center. Ms. Blair said there is signage; they hope to have it open within the next month. Mayor Knopp said there will be a special direct line in the atrium of City Hall. The e-mail address is customerservice.org.

### **CITY SCAN UPDATE**

Ms. Anderson said they have more students than ever before. She and Mr. Shockley are pleased with the interest this year.

Ms. Anderson said Greentrack has gotten it together and the interstitial should be ready soon. It should be shown on CPTV.

Ms. Andersons aid that CPAC has merged with the United Way in Connecticut. There offices will be located in Rocky Hill.

### **TREE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Nelson said that the contract with the new tree supplier is in place. Mayor Knopp planted the first tree. They can now accept tree orders. The Tree Advisory Committee has applied to Tree City USA for the second year to be eligible for more grants. They will concentrate on the areas that don't have many, or any, trees. They have 200 requests thus far. Mayor Knopp said applications can be made through the Customer Service Center.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Telesco  
Telesco Secretarial Services