

**EAST NORWALK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Annual Meeting**

**September 14, 2005
Minutes**

Board Member Attendees: Laurel Lindstrom (president), Erik Nees, Marija Bryant, Wendye Pardue, Maribeth Becker

Other guests: Sarah Hunter; Liz Ayn; Phillipa Griffiths; David Park, Toni Boucher (State Rep for District 143)

Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM.

1. Public Participation – Concern expressed over the dumping of large items in vacant lots and other out of the way places instead of disposing of them properly. Liz Ayn states that Howard Avenue is a particular problem. Calls are made to DPW which then comes and picks up the items.
Other examples of neighborhood issues:
 - Cars that are registered but not moved for weeks at a time. Erik Nees suggests that if a car isn't moved in 24 hours on a public street, it can be towed. Laurel Lindstrom recommends contacting the City's new customer service center.
 - The litter situation in Norwalk. Toni Boucher recommends that this be made part of the "community service" position of a sentence for youthful offenders. Laurel Lindstrom adds that David Shockley is working with STAR employees to remove litter from streets, etc.
 - Maribeth Becker will check with DPW about instituting a process that would have certain times of the year that DPW would pick up large trash items from homeowners.
 - Making Howard Avenue one way as was promised by the developers of the Norden site.
2. July minutes accepted as corrected. August minutes with corrections: add Maribeth Becker to board members attending; delete name reference to contact for the Hendricks Street cleanup.
3. Reports:
 - a. Treasurer's Report – Gordon Tully
 - i. Since treasurer Gordon Tully is unable to attend the meeting due to illness, Laurel presents and reviews the expense report for FY 2004 (July 1, 2004 to July 1, 2005.) .
 - b. President's Report – Laurel Lindstrom
 - i. See attached president's report for details.
 - c. Tree Liaison – Nick Overall
 - i. No report
4. Programs and Projects:
 - a. September Event
 - i. To be held Monday, September 26th at the Town House, in Mill Hill historic park, 2 East Wall Street. Doors open at 7 PM, program begins at 7:30 PM. Theme will be "Norwalk: Then and Now" with photos of ENNA area from the past and displays of the proposed developments. Marija Bryant will locate an aerial shot of the Wall Street area before the 1955 flood. Laurel Lindstrom will contact The Hour for any relevant historic photos.
 - ii. Discussion about interviewing older Norwalk residents. Toni Boucher suggests the mother of the owner of Spinelli's Bagel shop.
 - b. Fall cleanup: October 1, 9 AM to noon.
 - i. Location: Hendricks Street neighborhood.
 - ii. Flyer is completed and is being passed out in the neighborhood asking for participation.
 - c. ENNA Adopt a Spots

- i. East Avenue in front of City Hall appears to be thriving.
 - ii. Tierney Street and Strawberry Hill Avenue has been planted and is being weeded and watered.
- d. Fall Newsletter
 - i. Gordon Tully is making changes to his article; Marija Bryant is editing to take out the CT Trust telephone number in order to minimize confusion.
 - ii. Distribution: Who should receive the newsletter? Discussion follows as to cost of printing vs. value to recipients – who is the proper target market for the newsletter? Have gotten some responses to the letter but not enough to reconcile the costs of printing.
 - iii. Suggestion: select a new neighborhood for each issue to increase coverage and keep down the cost of printing.
 - iv. Will have copies of newsletter at ENNA fall event.
 - v. Bottom line: Laurel Lindstrom will start printing the newsletter and we will continue the discussion of how to get the newsletters in front of people that will help grow membership, support, etc.
- e. Liberty/Ludlow revitalization places
 - i. Laurel has had no response to letters sent to property owners in first week of September; has talked to one owner who was noncommittal. Decision is to talk to the property owners individually to generate interest in the plan.
Action: Laurel Lindstrom will call Redevelopment Agency to get clarity around the application and requirements for the grant money and send a letter to the Mayor requesting more information before he announces the availability of grants at a planned press conference.
- f. Watch list properties:
 1. Norden Park. ENNA will meet with three of the neighbors on the Westport side of the property on September 19 at 7:30 in Room 213, City Hall.
 2. Lea Manor/ Strawberry Hill Avenue. Developer has not yet filed a plan. Laurel Lindstrom will follow up with the attorney (David Waters) to determine status of project. Neighbor petitions will be mailed to Laurel who will represent them to the City when a public hearing is held. .

5. New Business

- a. Name change
 - i. Discussion regarding the concerns of central Norwalk neighbors about the “east Norwalk” designation. Traditionally, East Norwalk has specific boundaries and area above I-95 usually not thought of as East Norwalk. Suggestion is to change ENNA name to “Eastern Norwalk Neighborhood Association.
 - ii. Action: Need to find out if name change affects application for non-profit status.
 - iii. Sarah Hunter volunteers to design a logo for ENNA.
- b. Nomination of new regular board members
 - i. Gordon Tully was requested to serve another 3 year term and has accepted. Approved by unanimous vote.
 - ii. Sarah Hunter is asked to join the board as a regular member. Accepted and approved by unanimous vote.
- c. Advisory board
 - i. Marija Bryant makes a motion to adopt the Advisory Board Policy document as proposed to allow the ENNA to elect advisory board members. Maribeth seconds and the motion is approved by unanimous vote.
 - ii. New advisory board members suggested: Diane Lauricella (environment) and Nick Overall (landscape). Approved unanimously.
- d. Amended bylaws, with clarifying language as recommended by ProBono attorney, are read by the president. Maribeth Becker makes motion to accept the amended bylaws as written. Marija Bryant seconds.

6. Next regular board meeting: Wednesday October 12, 2005

7. Meeting adjourned at 10 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Marija Bryant, Secretary.