

# President's Report

Date: 3/9/05

## Past Meetings/Workshops:

- CNNA on 2/14 (see CNNA report attached)
- LWVN Affordable Housing Forum on 2/17 (see flyer previously sent to Board)
- TAC met on 2/22 – Neighborhood Tree Liaisons role specified; Wall St./East Wall St. tree planting discussed without any decisions as yet. LEL attended as a member.
- Redevelopment Agency CDBG public hearing on 5-year plan on 2/22 – ENNA Letter submitted (see letter previously sent to Board)
- ENNA 'projects' meeting on 3/1 (see Minutes sent to Board by GT)
- Grant Writing Workshop (3-day) sponsored by United Way/Pace In White Plains, NY to start on 3/1 was postponed until the fall
- MNPC meeting on 3/2 (see MNPC report attached)
- TTD Annual meeting on 3/2 – budget proposed by commission approved. ENNA did not request funds. Erik Nees attended. (See email previously sent to Board by EN)
- Pepperidge Farm property presentation of housing plan to Westport P&Z and Conservation Commissions on 3/3 – LEL attended.
- Planning Committee of the Common Council met on 3/3 – heard presentation of Parcel 3 Wall Street Plan by DiScala. As yet the public have not been invited to hear a presentation or comment. LEL emailed Matt Miklave (Chair of the Committee) ENNA concerns and contacted Diane Lauricella who also emailed the Committee (see emails forwarded to Board)
- Anti-Litter Task Force and/or subcommittee for the April 30<sup>th</sup> City-wide Cleanup met on 2/11 and 3/7 – LEL participated as a member.

## Future Meetings/Workshops:

- Mid-harbor Study public hearing held by Planning Commission on 3/9 and 3/30 at 7:30 PM
- CNNA meeting on 3/14 at 7:30 or 8 PM – Agenda items include presentation by Mayor; Pepperidge Farm development.
- TAC meeting on 3/22 at 6 PM
- LWVN Legislative Potluck on 3/28 at 6:30 PM
- Planning Committee of the Common Council public hearing on the Capital Budget on 3/31 at 7 PM
- Projects Planning Workshop for Not-for-Pofits (2-day) sponsored by United Way/Pace at White Plains, NY 4/7 and 4/14 from 9 AM to noon – LEL plans to attend. Fee is \$50
- Planning Committee of the Common Council – next meeting is 4/7 (first Thursday)
- CNNA meeting on 4/11
- Next regular ENNA meeting is 4/13 at 7:30 PM in Room 101
- 'Projects & Programs' meeting of the ENNA – date to be determined
- P&Z meeting in month of March and April (see calendars and agendas available on City website)

## Communications of Note:

- Email to membership on 2/20 (see email)
- Several responses from members agreeing to be street reps, and one agreeing to help in lesser capacity as able.
- Meeting notice in 'Briefs' section of Advocate and the Hour submitted 3/4 (see notice previously sent to Board)

- Email to membership on 3/6 (see email)

## EAST NORWALK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS Report

Date of meeting: March 1, 2005

Board Member Attendees: Laurel Lindstrom, Marija Bryant, Maribeth Becker, Gordon Tully.  
The meeting, held at Maribeth's, was called to order at 7:40pm

1. TTD Meeting
  - a. Discussion centered on whether Laurel (and Erik, if available) would attend the TTD meeting to be held on March 3.
  - b. Agreed that Erik would go, if available
2. Mid-Harbor Issues
  - a. Good article in The Hour, Tony D'Angelo quoted.
  - b. Laurel plans to stop in and see him concerning the article and the Mid Harbor plan hearings scheduled for March 9<sup>th</sup> (conflict with our Board meeting) and then March 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. We should have something for the meeting.
  - d. Laurel also reminded Chris Perone about the bridge.
3. Treasurer
  - a. Gordon is willing to be Treasurer, but is secretary. Marija agreed to take over Secretary position to free Gordon to be Treasurer. Gordon and others will have to fill in when Marija is absent.
  - b. Need Board action, for next meeting.
  - c. Maribeth has friend who can help Gordon with accounting issues.
  - d. Laurel will send Gordon the QuickBooks files received from Marie.
  - e. Gordon still has checks, and will bring them for deposit at next meeting.
  - f. Erik needs to bring paper he got from Rich to the next meeting.
4. Density and Development
  - a. An extended discussion about the development that seems to everyone to be cropping up unannounced and unopposed.
  - b. Complaints about ENNA's lack of effectiveness in objecting to development are inappropriate, because we weren't around when developments going up now were approved. Approvals take a long time, and people don't register that.
  - c. Dilemma for ENNA is that many people are anti-development, yet development will occur despite us. We need to control density, and can't do that if we take a stand against development
  - d. Proposed that ENNA sidestep the dilemma by initiating public discussions involving planners, developers, officials, to help the public understand the issues and make useful suggestions.
  - e. This was seen as an excellent way to rally people for ENNA – the kind of core issue we are looking for.
  - f. Laurel suggested inviting Mike DiScala, and others suggested Mike Greene, for April meeting, to discuss Gibbs site. Advertise widely.
5. Liberty and Ludlow Project
  - a. Mayor forwarded our plan to staff for examination. Laurel emailed Alanna Kabel for feedback

- b. Laurel got a call from the owner of Liberty Square buildings plus buildings behind (not sure how much he owns). He wasn't able to download the plan, Laurel made a copy and left in his mailbox 1.5 weeks ago, hasn't heard back.
- c. Gordon wrote to his son at Main Street Center for info on programs related to this kind of thing – will hear soon.
- d. No one else contacted Laurel which disappointed her. She suggested that people are probably hesitant to call because they don't have time to help with the project. The Board felt that it was normal that few people had responded. The plan hopefully gives people "permission" to do something.
- e. Gordon still would like to identify grant and/or low-interest loans for a Van Zant Street business. He will send him the plan and discuss. It would be a good pilot project.

#### 6. Redevelopment and Development Projects

- a. Westport Avenue / Main Street-Avenue Corridor: Laurel hopes she or someone from the Board will be appointed to proposed Mayor's committee. She will tell Alanna of our interest.
- b. Pepperidge Farm: problem, how to get neighbors involved? Westport letter is strictly anti-development, so we can't simply support it. Meeting at 3:30 on Thursday in Westport, which Laurel will try to attend.

#### 7. Street Reps

- a. People are waiting to be called, but Laurel doesn't want to do so until we have enough that existing list doesn't feel overwhelmed.
- b. Maribeth agreed to take over the task of organizing street reps and looking for new ones. She has a lot of friends on various streets, likes to email, and has moments of spare time, so would enjoy doing this.
- c. April cleanup could be a rallying issue to get system working.
- d. She may call a meeting for reps, have them forward ideas via email.

Meeting adjourned around 9:30

### Coalition of Norwalk Neighborhood Associations Report

Date of report: 3/9/05

Date of last CNNA meeting: 2/14

At the CNNA meeting it was decided that there was no consensus in the group to take a stand on the issue of the West Avenue plan. It was decided that a letter be drafted to Seligson and Sheehan including: mention that a consensus hadn't been reached; a list of all the concerns that had come up in CNNA discussion on the project; and a desire to keep the communication channels open. Maribeth Becker has volunteered to work on letter draft with Bob and Paul Littell.

The Mayor appeared briefly to announce the April 30<sup>th</sup> City-wide Cleanup and to ask to be placed on next month's agenda (3/14) for a longer presentation on neighborhood issues.

Votes were taken Board members. Bob Wagman (WNA) will continue as Coordinator for another year. LEL (ENNA) will continue as a Board member for at least another 6 months. Tony Doumlele (NASH) replaced Lee Levey.

Pepperidge Farm property development will be on the agenda for discussion on 3/14.

Date of next CNNA meeting(s): 3/14 & 4/11

### Mayor's Neighborhood Preservation Committee Report

Date of report: 3/9/05

Date of last MNPC meeting: 3/2

At the meeting Laurel reported on the following ENNA items:

- Cars for sale in Wachovia Bank parking area – P&Z item
- Cars for sale on Real estate property and on street at Olmstead and East Avenue – P&Z item
- Possible contamination is brook along Knight St. – Health Dept. item referred to Mayor's Water Quality Committee Chair Tony D'Andrea
- DPW items outstanding from ENNA 11-page report submitted May 2004 following the Walking/Bus Tour – Connie Blair of DPW (Customer Service Center) working on list
- 22 homeless people sleeping under the Stroffolino Bridge reported by ENNA 'member' – NPD item (see email from Deputy Chief Palmer
- Illegal parking of cars in center area of Liberty Square lot reported by ENNA 'member' – NPD item – area owned by city but parking is unrestricted so anyone can park there 24 hours.
- Litter, including drug paraphernalia & condoms, in Constitution Park and Liberty Square reported by ENNA 'member' – no department took ownership
- Cars double-parked on Prowitt St. blocking way of emergency vehicles reported by ENNA 'member' – NPD and Fire Dept. item
- Snow blocking sidewalks at various locations, including Old Saugatuck Rd., reported by ENNA 'members' – NPD item. Palmer states that a warning to the property owner is often sufficient unless the owner is unable (elderly, etc.), then police don't like to ticket. Group discussed neighborhood associations identifying those people who are unable to shovel their walks and arranging for neighbors to shovel. Laurel mentioned that our Street Reps could take identifying these elderly-plus residents as one of their roles
- Group discussed housing development throughout Norwalk. Laurel contributed the need to be proactive.

Date of next MNPC meeting(s): 4/6 at 10 AM

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurel Lindstrom