

# CLEAN & GREEN Commission

*OUR TOWN, OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, KEEP HAMDEN CLEAN & GREEN*

**INFORMAL NOTES: The Clean & Green Commission held an informal session, as a quorum was not present, in a Webinar format via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 15, 2020**

**The Webinar ID is 91076695333, Password 915322 , Call in 1 301 715-8592**

Commissioners in Attendance: Ellen Endriss, Dave Morin, Anika Matin

Commissioners Excused: Shelby Irwin, Monique Simmons, Craig Machado, Carl Jordan

Others in Attendance: Solid Waste & Recycling Director Joe DeRisi, Commission Clerk Gerry Tobin

1. Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:10 p.m.

2. Review minutes of the February 19, 2020 meeting

Tabled to the July meeting.

Ms. Endriss reported that the RWA will not use volunteers at HazWaste this summer. Collections began last Saturday, and the company that takes the hazardous waste away hired extra workers to assist at collections.

Under the new Legislative Council budget, there will be no bulk trash collection in the upcoming fiscal year. Ms. Endriss suggested the Commission be prepared to respond to questions.

Ms. Endriss asked Mr. Morin if he has done any cleanups. He replied that he has done cleanups while walking with his kids in his neighborhood. He mentioned that people are good about picking up after their dogs and putting the waste in plastic bags. Unfortunately, they throw the plastic bags in the woods instead of in the trash barrels. Perhaps we should look into trying to get biodegradable bags donated.

Ms. Matin mentioned grants available through TD bank. Ms. Endriss mentioned the Sustainable CT program where we can help the Town earn points.

Mr. Morin mentioned that he has stopped at the Russell Road house and has been taking care of the front yard, light maintenance every other week. Ms. Endriss mentioned that we should pass that off to the Spring Glen Garden Club. Mr. Morin will reach out if he needs help.

Ms. Endriss mentioned the Spring Glen pruning event that the Tree Commission was planning. Ms. Tobin will ask about that at the Tree Commission meeting tomorrow evening.

Mr. Morin talks with Trish every week. She is loving Arizona. Ms. Endriss asked him to give Trish the Commission's best.

Ms. Endriss mentioned that the Land Trust is trying to purchase 42 acres near Brooksvale Park. She will keep the Commission updated.

Mr. Morin has been in touch with Mr. DeRisi and they will help a woman by taking her stuff to to the transfer station.

Ms. Endriss said the Commission's mission statement is outdated and needs to be reinvented to better reflect what the Commission currently does. One of our main cleanup jobs, following the summer concerts, is no longer going to be done by the Commission. Ms. Endriss asked Commissioners to review the old mission statement and write up a new mission statement for the Commission. Ms. Matin will give it a try.

Ms. Matin reported on her social media activity on the Commission's Facebook page. She has posted information about masks and gloves and got 180 likes. She asked Commissioners to let her know if they come across anything worthy of posting, and asked Mr. DeRisi to write up something and she will post. She is thinking of adding a google form for residents to us to request assistance. Mr. DeRisi said helping a person in need has not been on our radar in the past. We would have to vet each situation, but he has started in that direction. Ms. Matin said Human Rights and Relations has shared our post to their page. Ms. Matin showed her posts to the Commission's Facebook page and had over 3000 followers. The Town's website has 8,000 followers. Mr. DeRisi will make a list of his priorities for the Facebook page.

Mr. DeRisi mentioned that to save money, he would like to take food waste and textiles out of the trash stream. Composting and the pink bags need to be promoted. Mr. DeRisi mentioned that the first and third Saturdays are good for him.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting ended at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_