



TOWN OF HAMDEN OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Scott D. Jackson
Mayor

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CLEAN & GREEN COMMISSION

"OUR TOWN, OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, KEEP HAMDEN CLEAN"

Minutes: The Clean & Green Commission, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the third floor conference room, Hamden Government Center. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Scott Howland, Dakibu Muley, Charlene Webb
Marietta Mattei, Carl Jordan, Diane Hoffman,
Sandra Serrano Alvarado

Excused Absence: Barbara Schlein

Unexcused Absence: Peter Palmieri, Jack O'Donnell

Others in Attendance: Recycling Coordinator Pam Roach
Commission Clerk Gerry Tobin

1. Call to Order

Mr. Howland called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. Review of Minutes of November 16, 2009

Ms. Hoffman made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16th meeting. Ms. Mattei seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Election of Officers

Ms. Hoffman nominated Mr. Howland to another term as chairman. Ms. Mattei seconded the motion. There were no further nominations. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mr. Howland thanked the commissioners for the vote of confidence and accepted the chairmanship.

4. Old Business

Mr. Howland reported that Ms. Schlein invited Councilman Gabe Lupo to the February commission meeting. He made a campaign promise to work on blight remediation, and the commission would like to work on that issue with him.

Ms. Schlein has come up with an idea for a skit for Earth Day, and will email commissioners.

Mr. Howland had an opportunity to speak with Mayor Jackson at the Town's New Year's Eve party, and they discussed the commission's letter to Town Planner Creane, which caused quite a furor. Mayor Jackson felt that what the commission was looking for seemed reasonable and he will get back to the commission. There has been no response or questions from the Town Planner. Discussion followed.

Update on mail that was sent out from the Commission.

- The annual report went out;

- The letter to Town Planner Creane went out;

- A draft has been prepared of a letter to Frank Cooper on our observations on canal line

- Clerk Tobin sent out the letter to the companies whose names were provided by Ms. Schlein thanking those businesses for keeping their properties Clean and Green. Ms. Tobin will provide Mr. Howland with copies of the letter.

The coalition at Quinnipiac was discussed, and Clerk Tobin distributed an email she received from one of the Quinnipiac students, talking about April 10th as a day of volunteerism. They are looking for areas in which they could help.

At a previous meeting, the commission discussed having churches and neighborhood groups involved in helping the commission achieve its goals of keeping Hamden clean. Ms. Hoffman said the Town shouldn't expect a small volunteer commission to focus on something as big as keeping Hamden clean, but the Commission could certainly be part of a larger group. Ms. Hoffman will draft a followup letter to Quinnipiac and email it to the commissioners.

Jack O'Donnell was going to draft a letter to those along the trail who were not doing a good job keeping their properties clean. Mr. Jordan said he went back to the area near Putnam Avenue Stop & Shop and found that it had been cleaned up.

Mr. Howland mentioned the letter that he wanted to go out regarding the cleanups after the summer concerts. Ms. Hoffman will email that to everyone again.

Ms. Mattei had copies of the letter to Frank Cooper. Mr. Howland felt we should drop the reference to the area along the trail near Quinnipiac, since that has been cleaned up. The Commission saw a very large amount of heavy trash just north of Putnam Avenue. (see observations in November minutes). The commission didn't get any help with publicity or any effort to make the trail cleanup successful. Ms. Mattei will revise the letter.

Ms. Roach suggested commissioners call her whenever they see trash and then she can get Bill Sikorsky to go out and look at it. Ms. Webb said she has been reporting carriages to stores and they call her back, but they don't pick them up. The couch is still out on Morse Street in front of Kramer Iron.

Orchid Award

Mr. Jordan nominated Park Central as this year's recipient of the business Orchid Award. There were no additional nominations. The commissioners all agreed.

Ms. Hoffman suggested the traffic island on the corner of Dixwell and Putnam Avenues be nominated for the civic award. Mary DeSarbo and Mrs.

Baumgartner take care of the traffic island. There were no additional nominations. The commissioners agreed.

Stop & Shop – Bill Sikorsky went to the Putnam & Dixwell Stop & Shop and found it pretty well cleaned up. He spoke to the manager and reported that this should not be a problem in the future. Ms. Roach reported that Mr. Sikorsky follows the five trash routes and the ten recycling routes.

There was discussion on public trash cans that are overflowing, especially at those located at bus stops. Ms. Roach will check with Trashmaster regarding twice a week pickup,

Earth Day

Ms. Roach announced that Earth Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. She needs commissioners to sign up to work shifts. Setup at the Middle School begins at 8:00 a.m. There are free activities all day. Dr. Mel will be with us again this year. Wind Over Wings, a reptile show all day, a Middle School science presentation, and other events will be available. Mr. Horn will be donating the Wind Over Wings program.

Commissioners will be participating in the Memorial Day Parade and Brooksvale Day, which might get moved to September.

Ms. Roach announced that Green Expo is scheduled for September 11, 2010. September 11th is also Hazwaste Hometown volunteer day. June 5th is also hometown day for Hamden at Hazwaste.

Carl Jordan brought up sidewalks that go unshoveled, and discussion followed on who to contact. Laurie Janul in Engineering is the sidewalk inspector, and these sidewalks can also be reported to Julie Smith at the Help Desk.

Mr. Howland will remind the Mayor if the Commission doesn't hear back from him and Ms. Creane.

Mr. Howland said we are trying to work with the Town, pulling everyone together, including public and private entities.

Adjournment

Ms. Hoffman made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk