



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 Monday, May 21 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Mayor’s Office Conference Room, Hamden Government Center. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Diane Hoffman, Scott Howland, Carl Jordan, Sandra Serrano Alvarado, Chad McCulley, Charlene Webb, Marietta Mattei, Agnes Orłowski

Absent: Peter Palmieri

1. Call to Order

Mr. Howland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Review Minutes of 4/16/12

Page 2, 3rd full paragraph, 8th line, after letter, insert to the Advisor. 4th paragraph, after first line ending with further, delete remainder of sentence; next line, after letter, insert or requesting a meeting with the Mayor. Based on the vote, Mr. Howland will call the Mayor to schedule a meeting. Last paragraph, add Mr. Sikorsky is monitoring the use of public trash cans along Dixwell Avenue. Page 3 under new business, Change Ms. Roach to Ms. Orłowski reported trash bags from cleanup were still on the trail behind Home Depot. Under Earth Day, 4th paragraph up from bottom, add Ms. Hoffman will be there all day. Ms. Hoffman also wanted to add “if we only did things the government said we could do, we would not accomplish much.” on page 2 under Advisor discussion.

Mr. Jordan made a motion to approve the minutes of April 16th as amended. Ms. Serrano Alvarado seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Old Business

Tree Program

Mr. Howland reported that the tree program is on hold at this point. The location on Garfield Street didn’t pan out because it couldn’t be done free because UI will not plant

trees under their wires. Ms. Mattei said she contacted the neighbor across the street who was not interested. Mr. Brand has been very busy. We had permission from the Town to plant two trees. What might the Commission want to do about this. Do we have to have Mr. Brand? Can we do this by ourselves? Mr. Howland has a shovel and would be willing to plant the tree. Ms. Roach will try to talk to Andy Brand again about donating a tree, and ask the Town if we will be allowed to plant, since we missed the Earth Day and Arbor Day planting. Someone suggested we place an article in the people and if we get a lot of interest, we could review the applications and prioritize the request.

Earth Day

Mr. Howland said this was a very successful day. A great job was done by Ms. Roach and the Commissioners. The Orchid Awards and Scavenger Hunt went very well. The plants donated as prizes were appreciated. The extra plants went to Borgnine Park and the Karma Garden.

Followup Items with Mayor Jackson

The Commission requested the Mayor write an article for the Chronicle to encourage Hamden residents to clean up after themselves. Last week, the Mayor was a speaker at the Dunbar Hill Civic Association, which Mr. Howland attended. He spoke to the Mayor about the article for the Chronicle. A day later, the article was in his email. We will watch for the article.

Mr. Howland also spoke to the Mayor about meeting with him regarding the Advisor. Ms. Hoffman told the Mayor she had done a petition in her neighborhood, and told him that people were unhappy about the delivery method of the Advisor. Mayor Jackson delivered the Advisor when he was a kid. In those days it wasn't an issue. She told Mayor Jackson that it is demoralizing to have to pick up stuff from the road. Frank from the Advisor called her and apologized. They do have the rule about if there is a paper on the property at the time of the next delivery, they are supposed to note the address and report back to circulation. Frank said he would fire the person that is not delivering the paper properly. Mr. Howland said this is encouraging. Perhaps we should keep our eyes on this and not worry about meeting with the Mayor.

Mr. Howland sent an email to Craig Cesare and had a very good response. He will come to our September meeting. We will put some questions together ahead of time. They have shared a good exchange of emails and conversations.

May Cleanup

Mr. Howland said he is disappointed to say we didn't have one. Project Green was ready to go, but it was short notice for May 19th. They would have supplied the manpower, the pickers and the bags. We have been leaving it up to the sponsors to pick the date and the location. Discussion on whether that was the right way to go about it. There was discussion on a June 30 cleanup with Project Green. If that doesn't work, we will tell them September.

4. New Business

Memorial Day Parade – Ms. Solis, Ms. Hoffman, Ms. Serrano Alvarado Ms. Orlowski and Mr. Howland will march and they will carry a banner and wear Clean & Green shirts. Ms. Roach asked for volunteers for Hazwaste Central for June 2nd. Commissioners always have a great time. Commissioners should wear their green tee shirts. Ms. Roach

said she has a lot of volunteers, and people should sign up for morning or afternoon, or all day.

Ms. Roach's Report

Ms. Roach thanks Commissioners for a successful Earth Day, the scavenger hunt, plants, etc. The Orchid award recipients all came all dressed up and were very excited.

There was discussion on picking up bags of trash/recyclables after cleanups.

Public Trash Cans – Bill Sikorsky has been monitoring the trash cans. They fill up fast. Ms. Roach said all addresses along Dixwell Avenue between Goodrich & Putnam will receive a letter from the Mayor regarding litter, blight & property maintenance.

September 8th is the next HazWaste Central Hometown Day after June.

Ms. Roach reported that 20 school tours came through this year and she mentioned litter and recycling to all of them.

The Talking Trash discussion didn't have a great showing, but we had great panelists.

Ms. Roach will be giving out official recycling warning letters this week. Previously warning letters were sent.

Mr. Howland said Hamden Middle School will be cleaning on the Farmington Canal Trail on June 8th. About 85 kids will be working.
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Mr. Howland mentioned Veterans Awareness Day coming up on Friday, May 25th. He hopes to attend.

Mr. Howland asked for a volunteer to chair the June 18th meeting because he will be on vacation. Ms. Hoffman volunteered.

July concerts coming up. The first one we are going to do will be the 7th. The others are on the 14th, 21st and 28th. They have a great lineup this year as usual.

There will be a cookout at Mr. Howland's house this summer, date to be announced.

Ms. Orlowski said Splash put up a huge fence that looks like recycled wood. Ms. Solis' Oneighbor is the manager and she spoke to him. This will make a big difference with litter on the trail.

5. Adjournment

Ms. Mattei made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk

