



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Scott D. Jackson
Mayor

Hamden Government Center
2750 Dixwell Ave
Hamden, CT 06518
Tel: (203) 287-7100
Fax: (203) 287-7101

CLEAN & GREEN COMMISSION

“OUR TOWN, OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, KEEP HAMDEN CLEAN”

MINUTES: The Clean & Green Commission, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting on Monday, March 19, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the 3rd floor conference room, Hamden Government Center. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Peter Palmieri, Barbara Schlein, Diane Hoffman, Agnes Orłowski, Carl Jordan, Marietta Mattei, Mary Solis, Chad McCulley, Charlene Webb

Excused Absence: Sandra Serrano Alvarado

Guests in Attendance: Sarah Northrop, Ron Johnson

1. Call to Order

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

2. Review Minutes of 2/21/12

Add to minutes: last page, discussion on Benham Street – Public Works did come out and clear the sidewalks near the Parkway Bridge.

Mr. Jordan made a motion to approve the minutes of 2/21/12 as amended. Mr. Palmieri seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Old Business

Mr. Howland said regarding the URI tree program in New Haven, this program has been in existence for 17 years. They plant 300 trees each year and have a 95% survival rate. This is an amazing program. This Commission is partnering in an informal way with Andy Brand and the Land Trust and with Legislative Council representative Kath Schomaker, to plant a tree (or two) for Earth Day, which is close to Arbor Day. Ms. Roach spoke to Mr. Brand today and emailed the updated recommended tree list. We should also determine which are native trees. Ms. Schlein will review the list for native species. The Land Trust has a large membership and they can apply for grants. We have to determine who will plant, where we will plant, and who will care for the tree, We

need permission from public works in order to plant the tree. Mr. Howland will work with Mr. Brand. People in this room will provide the sweat equity. Ms. Webb reported many areas in southern Hamden that need trees. Ms. Roach received an email from someone on Goodrich Street that reported URI planted trees on the New Haven side, but none were planted on the Hamden side. We would need permission from the BOE for a tree on school property. Ms. Schlein will work with Mr. Brand to determine what would be the appropriate street trees where there are wires and where there are no wires.

Trees must be watered once a week. Someone from our group or land trust should monitor. Ms. Roach will get info from Public Works.

In addition to the above tree planting, the Commission would like to start a tree planting program. UI paid \$150 per tree to have the New Haven trees planted where there are overhead wires.

Ms. Webb mentioned that all of the mature trees have been removed in the remediation area in southern Hamden. Ms. Roach said that there is a tree replacement program to replace the trees that were removed in the public right of way. Ms. Webb said some people have said no to a tree being planted in their yard. She has been handing out leaflets regarding the benefit of trees in people's yards, and asking people to reconsider their options.

Home Depot - Ms. Orlowski said Public Works or Parks did a great job cleaning up the Farmington Canal Trail. Jim from Public Works came along when she was in Home Depot returning the sign that landed on her condo property. It seems that the cleaning crew must have been dumping trash onto the trail as they cleaned up at 3:00 a.m. This has not happened since this was discussed with the weekend manager. Mr. Howland suggested a letter be sent to Home Depot's weekend manager.

Advisor – Mr. Howland spoke to Joyce in circulation. She will ask the delivery person not to deliver if there is an Advisor on or near the property. Church, Pine Rock, Gilbert and Wilmot were the streets mentioned. Report Advisor litter to Joyce at 239-4121.

Rosa Jones Park – Mr. Howland reported a less than friendly email exchange with woman who once maintained Rosa Jones Park. Mr. Johnson said at one time, they had volunteers that maintained it, but they no longer do. Clean & Green offered to do a cleanup there and it was not received very well.

We did send a letter to the Hamden Plaza. Ms. Tobin will give Mr. Howland a copy for his file.

4/14 cleanup with the QU students. We will have at least two groups of 10. The park on Dixwell across from Walgreen's is one location, and Ms. Schlein will meet and supervise 10 students. They will meet at the Stop & Shop parking lot on the Putnam avenue side. Mr. McCulley mentioned East Rock Park Road, but that street is in New Haven. A second location will be Skiff Street between Kohl's and the former Toys R Us building. Students and Commissioners will park at Kohl's and head up the hill. Ms. Orlowski and Ms. Mattei will supervise. If there are enough students to clean a third area, Ms. Hoffman suggested Vantage Road onto Circular Avenue going under the Parkway Bridge. Ms. Hoffman and Mr. McCulley will supervise that group.

Orchid award – the person we wanted to recognize at DJ’s liquor store sold the business. Instead Ms. Schlein suggested Drs. D'Andrea and Pantera's Dental Office on Whitney Avenue as recipients of the Orchard Award to a Business. She said they were really excited to be noticed. Commissioners agreed. Borgnine Park will be the recipient of the Civic Orchard Award.

Earth Day assignments were discussed.

Mr. Roach's Report – Ms. Roach received an email about the baseball field behind Eli Whitney School from Dakibu Muley via Mayor Jackson. She has contacted Mark Albanese at the BOE asking who the contact is. She has not received a response to date.

Ms. Roach will get scavenger hunt questions to Ms. Schlein and Ms. Tobin will print them. There was discussion regarding prizes for the scavenger hunt.

Ms. Roach reminded the Commissioners to Email her if they have an issue. Mr. Howland said the Commission appreciates her efforts.

4. New Business

Commissioners will march the Memorial Day Parade on May 28, starting at 10:00 a.m. From Hamden High School. They will carry the Commission's banner.

5. Adjournment

Ms. Northrop thanked the Commission for inviting her to the meeting. Mr. Johnson read the letter he wrote to the Post Chronicle listing the places in Hamden he felt were an embarrassment.

Mr. Palmieri 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