

MINUTES: The Clean & Green Commission, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 16, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. In the third floor conference room, Hamden Government Center. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Carl Jordan, Marietta Mattei, Agnes Orłowski,
Chad McCulley, Mary Solis, Scott Howland, Diane
Hoffman

Commissioners Excused: Peter Palmieri, Sandra Serrano Alvarado,
Charlene Webb

Minutes of June 18, 2012

Page 2, 1st and second lines, change Project Green Cleanup to neighborhood cleanup in two places.

Mr. Jordan made a motion to approve the minutes of June 18th as amended. Ms. Solis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Mr. Howland and other commissions commented favorably on the announcements made at the Friday night concerts. Announcements were made regarding cleaning up, helping the handicapped, smoking, etc. The announcements were constructive and nice and considerate of all those in attendance.

Commissioners also commented favorable on the folks with buckets doing a better job getting to the people there. All of the collecting was being done by adults.

Mr. Howland thanked Commissioners that helped clean up on Saturday morning. Ms. Mattei said Mr. Howland gets there so early, that when the rest of the gang arrives, the job is just about done.

The following commissioners will help on the 21st: Mr. Jordan, Ms. Orłowski, Ms. Mattei, Ms. Hoffman and Mr. Howland. On the 28th, Ms. Hoffman, Mr. Jordan, Mr. McCulley and Ms. Hoffman will be there. Mr. Howland and Ms. Mattei will not be available on that date.

Old Business:

Mr. Howland said the June 30th cleanup was a non-event for us. This was supposed to be a Project Green cleanup at First and Warren Streets. Some of the commissioners went to the location, but Project Green never showed up. They were very enthusiastic about coming and planned to have ten men, cleanup tools and a bus. Mr. Jordan, Ms. Orłowski and Ms. Serrano Alvarado went for the neighborhood cleanup and there was no one there.

Trees

The article offering trees was in the Chronicle two times. Ms. Roach sent Mr. Howland five requests. Mr. Jordan and Ms. Mattei are the subcommittee. We will wait until the end of July to choose the recipients because that is what the article said. Ms. Mattei will drive by and take

pictures. Dan Kops of P&Z suggested that the commission check with the Town's tree warden and have him do a drive by. If the tree warden and the subcommittee approve the applications, we can draw a name in September and plant in October.

After we draw the winner, we have to call Call Before You Dig to check the location.

Lions Club

Ms. Hoffman received a call from Sam Kumar of the Lions Club. He wants to meet before our next meeting and she asked him for dates but hasn't heard back. They want to plant a lot of trees and have the money to purchase them. We want to support them and work with them. They have a worldwide project to plant a million trees.

Ms. Orlowski said she was glad to receive the recommended tree list.

Recycling Coordinator's Report

Ms. Roach announced that our Hazwaste Central Hometown Day is September 8th from 8:15 to noon in shifts. Mr. Howland said that is the date of the cookout at his house. Ms. Roach said that is also the date of the Green Expo at Edgewood Park.

Ms. Roach thanked the commission on behalf of the Town for cleaning up after the concerts. Mr. Howland said he drove by the park today and saw litter which was left after a Sunday afternoon program. He asked Scott asked who cleans up after the Sunday concerts. Ms. Roach will check.

Bumper Stickers

Marissa did two versions of the bumper sticker. Dave Richards did one. PDFs will be send out to the Commission members. The colors can be changed. Commissioners will vote in September, or Ms. Roach will send them out and ask commissioners to vote on line. The size would be 3 x 11. The Mayor's budget is \$500 and would buy 1,000 bumper stickers.

Ms. Roach talked with Adam Zonas today about the blighted property on Pine Rock Avenue and he is working on finding the owners, etc.

Ms. Hoffman emailed Council Representatives Jack Kennelly and Mike Coliaicovo, and went to a council meeting and talked to them and a town attorney about the blighted property on Wilmot Road. The grass was cut two days later.

Dixwell Avenue Trash Cans

Ms. Roach reported that Bill Sikorsky is keeping his eye on the trash receptacles and has spoken to some of the business owners in the area about not using them for their business trash.

Ms. Roach reported that the Farmer's Market is in full swing, with a lot of vendors. She also mentioned that her husband takes the bus to work from Southington to Hartford and saves over \$200 a month and more if you count the wear and tear on his vehicle.

Regarding the mulch for the trees along the Farmington Canal Trail in the area behind Home Depot, the mulch can be picked up at Public Works. Ms. Orłowski's tree loving neighbor saw Public Works employees weed whacking the bark off of the young trees while trimming behind Home Depot. She wants to weed by hand and put mulch around the trees. Hopefully people will help her. Ms. Orłowski reported a piece of furniture on the Trail behind Home Depot that someone dumped and it broke into a million pieces.

New Business

Mr. Howland said we wish Mr. Palmieri a speedy recovery from his back surgery. Also, Ms. Serrano Alvarado suffered a broken ankle, so we wish her well too.

Save the Date

Hamden's Night Out will be held at Rochford Field on August 7th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Two years ago we participated and set up a table to pass out information. Commissioners did not want to commit to this event this year.

Mr. Howland's cookout will be held on 9/8, which is the Saturday after Labor Day, starting at 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Jordan asked Ms. Roach who he should contract regarding the house behind him. Instead of putting brush and trash out for the big pickup, they put it behind the shed that abuts his property. Ms. Roach said unless it is a health hazard, probably nothing can be done. Mr. Jordan will send Ms. Roach an email with the address of the property. Mr. Jordan also mentioned a street light near 133 Central Avenue that is covered with branches. It is located near Woodbine Street and it is very dark there. The branches need trimming.

Reminder: the Commission does not meet in August.

Betty from First Street – thanked the Commission for cleaning up First Street. The neighbors clean on the first or second Saturday of the month. They have been trying to get people to come out of their house for 15 minutes every day to cleanup in front of their property. The loitering seems to have moved up the street. Mr. Howland said the Commission can do a cleanup if the neighborhood group will sponsor. Betty would like some ideas about contacting absentee landlords to trim shrubs, weeds, etc. Mr. Howland also told Betty about the tree planting.

Adjournment

Mr. Jordan made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Mattei seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk