

CLEAN & GREEN COMMISSION

OUR TOWN, OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, KEEP HAMDEN CLEAN & GREEN

MINUTES: The Clean & Green Commission will hold a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 21, 2014 in the third floor conference room, Hamden Government Center. The following issues will be discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Ms. Solis, Ms. Serrano Alvarado, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Palmieri, Ms. Feliconio, Ms. Orłowski

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

1. Call to Order

Ms. Serrano Alvarado called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Review Minutes of March 17, 2014

Mr. Jordan made a motion to approve the minutes of March 17th. Mr. Palmieri seconded the motion. The vote was five in favor, one abstained.

3. Old Business

Quinnipiac Big Event

Ms. Serrano Alvarado felt the Big Event was a huge success. There were over 30 Quinnipiac volunteers participating. There was some miscommunication as to where they were meeting, but it worked out. They took photos, had good participation, they came prepared with pickers, gloves, bags, and great attitudes. There were some concerns. We were not successful in doing the group shot. Some people walked two miles carrying the full trash bags. Mr. Jordan said the last time they did it they had a shopping cart to move the bags. Next time they will just leave them alongside the trail for the parks crew to pick up. Some of the bags were heavy. Ms. Solis and Mr. Jordan found some illegal dumping near Mather Street and U Haul. There is a homeless encampment behind Bed Bath and Beyond. Ms. Serrano Alvarado wanted a group picture with the Quinnipiac students that helped, but that didn't work out. Home Depot assisted with the clean up and provided water, bags, work gloves, etc. Also their employee John Capella, who also works at Quinnipiac, and another employee helped.

Ms. Serrano Alvarado had two thank you letters, one going to the trail commission and one going to Quinnipiac. Ms. Serrano Alvarado had some ideas for making the cleanups fun and easy. Ms. Orłowski was thinking of a scavenger hunt. One of the students found a \$20 bill. Ms. Serrano Alvarado thanked the trail commission for taking the photos and its willingness to team up with Clean & Green in future endeavors.

There was discussion on tar paper from an abandoned building and other litter that might be from the nearby storage units. The abandoned building is near mile marker 8.0

Earth Day

Ms. Serrano Alvarado felt Earth Day was successful. Traffic was light at the beginning of the day and busier later with constant traffic. Ms. Orłowski said all of the plants were given out and she had an

extra flat this year. There were a lot of people from other towns in attendance. Ms. Serrano Alvarado thanked Ms. Orlowski for potting the plants and setting up the night before. Mr. Palmieri was there all day. Ms. Serrano Alvarado felt the certificates were time consuming and felt stickers might be better next year. She saw many of the certificates in the trash/recycling bins.

This year the Orchid Awards took place in the gym, and everyone was able to hear Mayor Jackson present the awards. The Commission received a thank you note from the award winners, Diane Hoffman and Vinnie Lavorgna of Friends of Brooksvale.

4. New Business

Commissioners decided they would march in the Memorial Day Parade. Ms. Tobin will ask the Mayor's Office to email the registration form to the Commission.

There was discussion on pot hole repairs.

There was discussion on the bulk pickup. Ms. Roach reminded commissioners to email her regarding bulk trash issues.

Mr. Jordan said he spoke to Father Sharkey about contacting the new branch of the Knights of Columbus regarding sponsoring a clean up. Mr. Jordan is also a member of the Elks and he will bring this up to them as well.

Haz Waste Central Home Town Day is coming up on May 31st, from 8:15 to 12 noon at the RWA parking lot on Sargent Drive.

Ms. Serrano Alvarado feels that Mayor Jackson has kind of pushed the commission aside. The letter to the businesses regarding their property upkeep never went out. There was discussion on getting together with other commissions to find out what our commonalities are and how we can work together.

Regarding Rosa Jones Park, the Town has Lynn Baumgartner as town gardener for about ten hours a week, and given her an account with a North Branford garden center. Clerk Tobin wondered why we didn't have an account with a Hamden garden center. Paradise Nurseries donates the plants for Earth Day prizes every year.

5. Adjournment

Mr. Jordan made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Palmieri seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk