

CLEAN & GREEN COMMISSION

OUR TOWN, OUR NEIGHBORHOODS, KEEP HAMDEN CLEAN & GREEN

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

Commissioners in Attendance: Mary Solis, Sandra Serrano Alvarado, Peter Palmieri, Agnes Orłowski, Carl Jordan

Commissioners Excused: Lisa Feliconio

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

1. Call to Order

Ms. Serrano Alvarado called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Review Minutes of May 19, 2014

Mr. Jordan made a motion to approve the minutes of May 19th. Mr. Palmieri seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Old Business

The date that was suggested for a cleanup with the Elks did not work out because the Elks had the Flag Day event that day. Because she wanted to do a cleanup, Ms. Serrano Alvarado called some of the people that signed up at one of our events to volunteer. Some phone numbers were obsolete and none of the people she left messages for called her back. It seems almost impossible to get a sponsor. Mr. Jordan will speak to the Elks Club again and get a date for another cleanup after the concerts are over.

Concert cleanup -

There were knives found on the ground by both Ms. Orłowski and Ms. Feliconio, one next to a pile of limes. There was also broken glass. A suggestion was made to remind people to cut up their food before coming to the concerts or at least not leave knives and other dangerous items on the ground. Mr. Jordan suggested a reminder be announced regarding using the trash and recycling receptacles. Ms. Serrano Alvarado mentioned that she hasn't found many lost items. Sometimes people come back the next day for things they left behind. Lost items are left on the stage. Ms. Serrano Alvarado asked when the carts get emptied. Ms. Roach said they usually get picked up on Monday. Ms. Serrano Alvarado said she noticed that there was more trash near the vendor trucks than there was on the other side.

Ms. Orłowski said she just came from the park and it is a mess tonight (Monday). There were events in the park this weekend, after the park was cleaned up on Saturday morning.

4. New Business

Ms. Serrano Alvarado said she would like to see us do more on the "green" since the cleanups are difficult to schedule. Based on Mr. Leng's responses, he is willing to work with us with some of the other commissions to make an impact in Hamden.

Ms. Serrano Alvarado went into a web site and got some ideas for some things we might be able to do. Some of the items are for homes, some for offices, etc., Some of the information came from other towns' clean and green initiatives. She suggested that commissioners pick some thing that they are passionate about and willing to work on. Mr. Leng would like our input. Commissioners are asked to submit ideas to Ms. Serrano Alvarado and she can share them with Ms. Roach and Mr. Leng. We can review them at our next meeting.

Ms. Orłowski suggested that at the Brooksvale Fall Festival we can handout something regarding green thanksgiving/halloween ideas, or perhaps have an activity for children that will draw families to our table. There was additional discussion.

Mr. Palmieri mentioned a small park almost across the street from Borgnine Park, near Woodin Street that is a mess.

Ms. Roach's Report

Ms. Roach expressed thanks to the Commission for the cleanup of the park following the concert. She mentioned that HazWaste Hometown day is September 6th. The Green Expo is the same day, so she will not be at HazWaste Central.

Ms. Roach mentioned that Hamden has increased recycling by 30% and decreased garbage tonnage by 20%. Hamden's recycling percentage is one of the best in the State.

There was discussion on composting.

Ms. Serrano Alvarado asked commissioner to review the information she distributed and come back in September with ideas to discuss with Mr. Leng, who plans to attend our meeting.

5. Adjournment

Mr. Palmieri made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk