



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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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, September 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the third floor conference room, Hamden Government Center. The following issues were discussed:

Commissioners in Attendance: Carl Jordan, Sandra Serrano Alvarado, Charlene Webb, Diane Hoffman, Barbara Schlein, Scott Howland, Dakibu Muley, Jack O'Donnell

Commissioners Absent: Marietta Mattei (excused), Peter Palmieri)

Others in Attendance: Pam Roach, Recycling Coordinator
Carolyn Smith, Hamden Resident
SCSU Student Aubrey
Michelle Mastropietre, Dunbar Hill Civic Assoc.
Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk

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

2. Review Minutes of July 20, 2009
Ms. Hoffman made a motion to approve the minutes of July 20th. Mr. Jordan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Old Business
Mr. Howland asked Clerk Tobin to place a press release for a new commission member.

Trash Can Liners

There was discussion on the purchase of trash can liners. Ms. Roach has not had a response from Mr. Velardi about locating new liners for the Town's green trash receptacles. Ms. Webb said she has put regular trash barrels in some of the receptacles on Dixwell Avenue.

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Concert Cleanup

Ms. Hoffman said if the Commission is going to clean up after the concerts next year, it should be recognized at the concerts and in any publicity. She also said announcements should be made during the welcome and again later in the concert reminding people to clean up after themselves. She also thinks if a concert is going to be cancelled, the Clean & Green Commission should be notified. This will be a formal request. Ms. Hoffman will prepare a draft letter and will email it to Commissioners for their comment. When it is sent out, it will have all Commissioners names on it.

4. New Business

Annual Brooksvale Fall Festival October 17th

Ms. Schlein said she became aware of the Commission at a Brooksvale Fall Festival when the Commission had a display there. Mr. Howland, Mr. Jordan will work that day, and possibly Ms. Serrano Alvarado.

Mr. Howland thanked the Commissioners who volunteered for HazWaste Central. They had a good turnout.

Clean & Green participated in the Community Service Fair at Quinnipiac University last week. Mr. Howland publicly thanked Ms. Hoffman for being there the whole time, along with Ms. Roach. Ms. Hoffman said students signed up to help with cleanups, and are on the contact list. Frank Cooper, the Assistant Parks & Recreation Director was there, as well as Beth Studniaski from Youth Services, Julie Smith, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, and several other Town Department representatives. Mr. Cooper spoke about the Farmington Canal Trail, and although Parks & Recreation is responsible for cleaning it, they need some help.

Ms. Hoffman said we need a coalition made up of businesses, students, other commissions, townspeople, churches, etc., any entity that has any stake in the Town, to help keep Hamden litter free. Mr. Cooper said he would be willing to allow the Commission to put a banner up on the Putnam bridge, which we might consider doing. Ms. Hoffman suggested a planning committee that meets and reaches out to the Town. Perhaps Mayor Henrici would kick off the campaign. Mr. Howland said the good part about the Quinnipiac University Fair is that it brought out many groups.

Ms. Webb mentioned that she and Ms. Smyth have been out picking up litter, trimming weeds and trimming shrubs along Dixwell Avenue. Carl Jordan mentioned that Dixwell Avenue is a state highway, so the state would be responsible. Ms. Webb said weeds are growing between the pavers along Dixwell Avenue and roundup should be used on them a couple of times each year. Ms. Smyth said the owners of each business need to be notified that they are responsible for keeping their properties up. She and Ms. Webb have taken it upon themselves to approach business owners personally.

Mr. Howland asked Commissioners to review the Ordinance that established Clean & Green Commission. It seems the Commission is reactive and never proactive. He asked Commissioners to read the section on powers and duties and think of some things the

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Commission can do, for discussion at the next meeting. The Commission does litter cleanup, but there is a lot more that we can be doing. Mr. Howland would like information on the status of where some of the liened properties are in the legal process.

Ms. Smyth mentioned 38 St. Mary Street and there was some discussion.

Commissioners discussed several properties including 400 Goodrich Street. Mr. Howland said the Commission could write to Ms. Creane asking for a list of problem properties. Mr. Muley said Commissioners should meet with her and discuss how the Commission can help the Town, with respect to its powers and duties.

Michele Mastropietre, secretary of the Dunbar Hill Civic Association, and a friend of Ms. Hoffman and Ms. Schlein, addressed the Commission. She mentioned a house on Woodin Street that has been boarded up for the past six years. She came to listen to the concerns of the Commission to determine how she could be of assistance.

5. Adjournment

Mr. Jordan made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hoffman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Submitted by:

Gerry Tobin, Commission Clerk