



# TOWN OF HAMDEN

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

**Lauren Garrett**  
Mayor

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

**ZOOM MEETING ID: 851 4589 5980**  
**PASSWORD: trail**  
**CALL IN : 1 646-558-8656**

**or click here to join: [Link to Join Webinar:](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85145895980?pwd=cjRjRFFSSTZSZmVNekZqckFhRDcxUT09)**

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Minutes: The Farmington Canal Commission, Town of Hamden, held a Regular Meeting **via Zoom** at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 4, 2022. The following topics were discussed.

Commissioners in Attendance: David D'Agostino, David Radcliffe, Rbert Reger Davd Schaefer, Mark Anton

Commissioners Excused: Bill Horowitz, Lisa Maloney, Public Works Director Matt Kott,

Others in attendance: Attorney Bernard Pellegrino, Enterprise Representative John Petrie, Assistant Town Planner Matt Davis, Commission Clerk Gerry Tobin

Call to Order

Mr. Schaefer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Attorney Pellegrino of the Pellegrino Law Firm of New Haven, CT, said he is here representing Enterprise Car Rentals, and is Joined by John Petrie of Enterprise. The application by Enterprise for the property at 2425 Dixwell Avenue, the former location of Breuger's Bagels, is scheduled to be on the Planning and Zoning Agenda on January 11<sup>th</sup>, but may be postponed to the meeting scheduled for January 25<sup>th</sup>. The Farmington Canal Trail abuts the back of the building and there is an informal access to the trail in that location. There are other access points to the trail nearby, at the bridge over Dixwell Avenue, at Skiff Street near Stop & Shop. Access from the 2425 Dixwell Site has railroad tie steps to get down to the trail. Mr. Kot asked if the applicant wants access from its property to remain, which it can, but it is not ideal. Perhaps when the restaurant was there it was, but there is not a lot of foot traffic to rental car businesses, and there are other access points nearby.

Mr. Schefer gave some historic perspective saying the access was created by the former owner, and was not an easement by the Town. They had a bike rack there which he used to use after his

trail ride, to stop for a bagel. Speaking for the Commission, we would say if you can keep it it would be nice, if not, the trail doesn't have the legal right to say no.

Attorney Pelegrino said his client has no issues with leaving it as is or not. Mr. Davis said there is the lack of an easement and there were no improvements done to Town property. Are the stairs maintained or up to code? There are statutory protections for trail use which hold the Town harmless. Mr. Kott will inspect the site. He said hand rails are required if there are more than two steps. Mr. Schaefer said the Commission will leave the safety issues to other groups. He thanked Attorney Pellegrino and Mr. Petrie for attending this meeting.

Mr. Schaefer said Mr. Kott is the most critical person with respect to the trail. We have been told that because there are no heavy vehicles allowed on the trail, the asphalt can last forever, but roots come up through the pavement and create hazardous conditions. Public Works has been able to help when there are funds in the maintenance budget. Besides the roots coming up, the stone dust needs to be maintained. It helps support the edges of the pavement. For many years a Public Works employee assigned to the trail, and that is no longer the case.

Mr. Schaefer explained that every few years, we have a group consisting of representatives from the Mayor's Office, Public Works and the Commission that take a golf cart tour of the entire trail to identify washouts, fences to be repaired, issues with roots, etc.

Review Minutes of December 7, 2021

1. Report from Matt Davis
2. Phase I Update (Mt. Sanford Road to Todd Street)
3. Phase IIA Update (Todd Street to Hamden Hills Drive)
4. Phase IIB Update (Hamden Hills Drive to Connolly Parkway)
5. Phase III Update (Connolly Parkway to New Haven Line)
6. Old Business
7. New Business  
Discussion of connection to trail at former Breuger's site
8. Adjournment

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Gerry Tobin, Clerk of the Commission