

**EASTERN NORWALK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**May 10, 2006
Minutes**

Board Member Attendees: Laurel Lindstrom (president), Maribeth Becker, Gordon Tully, Marija Bryant, Erik Nees, Wendye Pardue

Street Reps and advisory board members: David Park (Strawberry Hill Avenue); Diane Lauricella

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 PM.
2. Public Participation – none at this time.
3. Minutes
 - a. Changes by Laurel Lindstrom to sections 4 b v to explain the actions of Lamar re billboards at E Norwalk train station, section 5 a to correct name of guest, and 5 b to add notation about money's allocated by 3rd Taxing District. Corrected April 12, 2006 minutes accepted as presented by unanimous voice vote.
4. Reports
 - a. Treasurer's Report – Gordon Tully
 - i. No change from previous month's report.
 - b. President's Report – Laurel Lindstrom
 - i. Laurel attended seminar on Zoning and Land Use in CT and presented an overview of the key learnings. The contacts made at the seminar may prove useful as CNNA task force moves forward with recommendations for Norwalk Zoning.
 - c. Mayor's Neighborhood Preservation Meeting update – Laurel Lindstrom.
 1. Report on the success of the City clean up.
 2. Woman on Heather Street made a plea to do something about the traffic and speeding. Suggested making the street a dead end since people use it as a cut through to Strawberry Hill Avenue, thus avoiding the traffic light.
 3. Resident of High Street questioned the presence of a contractor's yard, but there is nothing obviously illegal about it. Zoned industrial so it is a legal use.
 - d. CNNA – Maribeth Becker
 - i. Last meeting had 22 people attending; large turnout. Started meeting by introductions and a quick overview of the "hot issues" in each neighborhood.
 - ii. Marny Smith reviewed the purpose and function of the Norwalk Land Trust, as well as current properties in trust. Encouraged neighborhoods to identify parcels and notify land trust. Marny explained the tax benefits of donating land as well as the restriction on the land after donation.
 - iii. Zoning Task Force progress report – Marija Bryant. Zoning Task Force continues to meet with key players in Norwalk land use decisions to gather information, opinions and ideas about the strengths and weaknesses of current zoning. Target is to have a recommendation based on the "phase 1" activities by July.
 - iv. West Avenue. CNNA has provided input and stated their position so no need to reiterate at the upcoming meetings.
 - e. NPT – Marija Bryant
 - i. NPT worked with the Historical Commission and NRA on Scan Day – a joint effort to gather images of pre-1955 Wall Street to be used in a proposed "Design Guide" for redevelopment of the Wall Street area.
 - f. Tree Liaison Report – Nick Overall.

- i. No report.
 - g. Environmental Report – Diane Lauricella
 - i. May 20th is household hazardous waste collection day at Norwalk High School; electronics recycling is May 24th in Fairfield.
 - ii. Planning Commission passed a subdivision amendment. They will engage Chan Krieger (consultants) to draft the Master Plan; Chan Krieger expects to have the report completed 10 weeks from the start date.
 - h. Newsletter Report – Sarah Hunter
 - i. Newsletter is anticipated to be shorter and less expensive to process (1 sheet; black and white). Sarah will send production schedule and dates for articles for the June 21 target publication date.
 - ii. Article ideas:
 - 1. Diane Lauricella – “In your own backyard” article to discuss alternatives to pesticides.
 - 2. An update on the Master Plan progress.
 - 3. Updated design and plans for the Gibbs college site on East Avenue.
 - 4. David Park – results of the traffic calming focus on Strawberry Hill Avenue.
 - iii. Sarah and Laurel will consult to see about sponsorships for the newsletter and ideas for future issues. Ideas will be emailed to the rest of the board.
 - iv. Diane raises the questions of ENNA fund-raising polices: who will we accept and seek money from in order to maintain our neutrality on East Norwalk issues?
5. Programs and Projects:
- a. Watch List
 - i. 73 Strawberry Hill Avenue plan has not yet been submitted.
 - ii. 124 East Avenue. Marija will call Mike Greene to see if there is any plan submitted to P&Z.
 - iii. Norden Place property – Conservation Commission will make their determination next Thursday; Zoning Commission still has to vote on it.
 - 1. Question is raised about the amount that has been invested in the property by owner/developer Spinnaker.
 - 2. Westport neighbors and Laurel presented letters requesting “intervenor status” that would make it mandatory that they receive all information regarding the project. City attorney (Robert Maslan) did not accept the letters because the Westport letter was not properly notarized and neither letter specified the potential harm to the environment that would require Spinnaker to look for a “feasible and prudent alternative.”
 - 3. Diane is checking to see whether the attorney’s claim is correct according to the state statute re intervener status.
 - b. Liberty Square Neighborhood Center Improvement Project
 - i. Suggestion is to have a mini-task force meeting to plan ENNA next steps in this project.
 - ii. MC to approach Tony Tsocanos (property owner) about his feelings regarding national Register listing; Marija will attend to provide information.
6. New business – None
7. Other business
- a. Marija mentions that a NYT reporter spent some time interviewing CNNA members and HC members re: teardowns in Norwalk. Article is scheduled to appear mid-June.
 - b. Discussion about the LWVN regarding the Know Your Town brochure and ENNA’s At Your Fingertips.
8. Next regular board meeting: Wednesday June 14, 2006.
9. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Marija Bryant.