

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

**August 9, 2006  
Minutes**

**Board Member Attendees:** Laurel Lindstrom (president), Marija Bryant, Erik Nees, David Park  
**Guest:** Hal Alvord, Director of DPW

1. Meeting called to order at 7:30 PM.
2. Public Participation – None
3. Minutes
  - a. May minutes accepted as presented by unanimous vote. June and July minutes accepted with corrections.
4. Speaker: Hal Alvord
  - a. Main points:
    - i. DPW is beginning the process of Strawberry Hill Avenue traffic calming by preparing RFQ for study. The Study will be funded by a State grant and combined with “Safe Routes to School”. Hope is that State will agree that same consultant can be used for both studies, ensuring better integration of the two projects. Due to staffing issues at DOT, may be a year before the study is started.
    - ii. Suggestion is made that when DPW arrives at some sort of design or plan, that the neighborhood groups have an opportunity to comment. David Park will be the point person for ENNA.
    - iii. Subsequent discussion about the neighbors being involved early in the process to get better buy-in. Would be good to include David Park (as ENNA rep) in the decision process to choose the consultant.
    - iv. DOT has asked DPW to manager several projects – route 1 and Main Street, East Avenue and Belden expansion, and exit 16 upgrade. DPW can’t undertake all these with current staff and would need another Civil Engineer. DOT is also short-staffed which is why they are looking to DPW.
    - v. Repaving of lower East Avenue is moving forward. Milling to start on August 27<sup>th</sup> and replacing finished by August 30<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting.
    - vi. Pedestrian cross walks at East Norwalk train station are in consideration. Included in the plan are moving the crosswalk to Ft. Point street and adding railings to discourage crossing East Avenue at an uncontrolled point.
    - vii. In late 2009, DOT will be releasing a bid package for the reconstruction of the RR overpass on East Avenue. Contract to be answered in 2010. DPW has earmarked funds for widening East Avenue after the DOT has finished reconstruction of the overpass. Bridge will not be raised so that 18 wheelers will not be able to take that route.
    - viii. Subsequent discussion asks DPW to consider alternatives to managing traffic in Norwalk other than widening roads.
    - ix. The trash bin contract is being negotiated for 40 bins citywide, including Wall Street and East Avenue. Trash bins will be managed by outside firm which will sell advertising on the 6 foot wide bins.
    - x. Tree trimming is an ongoing project to clear branches that are blocking signals, stop signs and intersection visibility.
    - xi. Discussion about roundabouts and the possibility of building some in Norwalk. Holding off until the traffic management plan for the city is complete.
    - xii. Flooding on Buckingham Place is caused by the way the homes are situated. There are no storm drains in the areas of 33 and 34 Buckingham. These are the homes that have experienced the greater amount of flooding. DPW is having a flood consultant come to

look at the works areas and see how to resolve.

**5. Reports**

- a. Treasurer's Report – Gordon Tully
  - i. No report
- b. President's Report – Laurel Lindstrom
  - i. Annual meeting is next month at which ENNA board will review and revise the bylaws as necessary.
- c. Programs and Projects
  - i. Liberty Square. Laurel Lindstrom will write a letter to the property owners informing them that the NRA is planning to rescind the CDBG grant that had been earmarked for the area unless the Agency receives matching contributions.
- d. Watch list
  - i. 73 Strawberry Hill Avenue. Zoning still does not have a filed site plan. Conservation Commission due to put it on the agenda for the 8/22 meeting and Plan Review at the 9/14 meeting.
- e. Mayor's Neighborhood Preservation Committee
  - i. Meeting minutes are available on the ENNA website. A committee may evolve to see if there is a way to make the meetings more efficient. Currently, the meetings lack focus and leadership.
- f. CNNA – Maribeth Becker
  - i. No report
- g. NPT – Marija Bryant
  - i. No report
- h. Tree Liaison Report – Nick Overall.
  - i. No report.
- i. Environmental report.
  - i. No report
- j. Newsletter Report – Sarah Hunter
  - i. No report in Sarah's absence.

**6. New business – None**

**7. Next regular board meeting: Wednesday September 13, 2006.**

**8. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.**

Respectfully submitted, Marija Bryant.