

**CITY OF NORWALK
MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION MEETING
JUNE 7, 2006**

ATTENDANCE: Richard A. Moccia, Mayor; David Shockley, Chairman;
Mike Wrinn, P&Z; Don Nelson, Tree Advisory Committee &
Norwalk Tree Alliance; Marilyn Maitland, Norwalk Health Dept;
Fred Eshraghi, Dept Public Works; Glenn Iannaccone, Norwalk Fire Dept;
Connie Blair, Customer Service; Hal Alvord, Public Works Department;
Harry Rilling, Police Chief

Lee Levey, Silvermine & NASH; Gloria Seymour, Tracey Area
Association; Robert Wagman, West Norwalk Association;
Katherine Griffing, Golden Hill Association; Jim Clark, Golden Hill
Association; Dorothy & John Romanelli, Harbor Shores; Mark Pierce,
Wilton Ave Association; Bernard Mugan, Wilton Ave Association;
Diana Paladino, Spring Hill Hospital Association; Al Raymond, Spring
Hill Hospital Association; Nancy Whitmore & Helen Bryan, West Main
Street Association; Laurel Lindstrom, Eastern Norwalk Neighborhood
Association; Maribeth Becker, Coalition Norwalk Neighborhood
Association

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Shockley called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. He started the meeting by having everyone introduce themselves.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MAY 3, 2006 MEETING MINUTES

**** MS. ROMANELLI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2006.**

The correction to the minutes is as follows:

On page 2, under New Business, 3rd sentence, it should read Cory Lane, not Quarry Lane.

**** MS. GRIFFING SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

GOLDEN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; JIM CLARK

Mr. Clark said he was thankful that the trailers housing the Rogers-Ritch-Merritt house have been moved from Andrews Field. He wished to say a special thank you to Sgt. Andre Velez, as he has made a special effort to address the concerns of the Golden Hill Neighborhood

Association. The association continues to have on-going issues in the neighborhood that need to be addressed.

Ms. Griffing mentioned that there have been numerous complaints about the junk and the mess near the Ben Franklin School. Now it appears to be in the process of getting cleaned up. She thanked City Scan. She said it seems that Bayview has a problem getting their garbage picked up by the DPW. Ms. Blair will follow up with that.

EASTERN NORWALK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; LAUREL LINDSTROM

Ms. Lindstrom mentioned the roadwork going on at night in the in the Sunset Hill/Tierney Street area. Mr. Alvord said the company doing the work is called Safety Markings and it is done at night to avoid disrupting traffic.

She said that she looked into the problem of the gap in the fence, and that it is a State issue.

She asked what the protocol is for road safety during a marathon. Mayor Moccia said that for the last road race, they had enough advertising in place, enough police personnel in place, and it is up to the runner to be aware of his/her own safety.

She brought up the parking issue near Veteran's Park and suggested the possibility of putting up signs. The cost of a car being towed from the area is \$1,200. She said she continues to receive letters from residents about the littering in Liberty Square Park near Domino's. After some conversation with Sen. Bob Duff and the attorneys, the abandoned nursing home on Strawberry Hill Avenue will have the grass mowed and the property cleaned up.

NORWALK ASSOCIATION OF SILVERMINE HOMEOWNERS; LEE LEVEY

Mr. Levey said the most serious of issues in the neighborhood is that a four-wheel drive vehicle had torn up the field and equipment at the Silvermine School. There appears to be a security problem and reports of potential drug use.

The house at 104 Silvermine Avenue had several residents call and write about a zoning violation. The property was cleaned up, and a fence was put up, but a commercial business is still being run from the house, with trailers and trucks parked in the front yard again.

The house at 108 Comstock Hill Road has seen a marked decrease in the amount of people congregating in front of the house during the daytime, and a drop in the number of cars parked overnight. Ms. Maitland said that it is an illegal rooming house, and that the owner will be moving out in July. She has sent a notice out to the owner.

Mr. Levey said that NASH has received a \$7,000 grant from the CT Trust for Historical Preservation to supplement the cost of establishing the core historic district. There will be a media event at the Silvermine Tavern on June 26.

He added that the Silvermine Community Association is in the process of having "This is Silvermine" historical signs put up at all the entrances to Silvermine, encompassing Silvermine, New Canaan, and Wilton. Of the 16 signs, they have sold sponsorship for 12.

HARBOR SHORES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; DOROTHY ROMANELLI

Ms. Romanelli said that during the recent Keep Norwalk Beautiful clean-up, there were a limited amount of volunteers that worked very hard to clean up the graffiti and litter. They have received extra trash cans but the litter continues to be a problem. The bus stop at Woodward will have trash cans. People continue to park on the crosswalk at Woodward Park on Sunday nights.

1. Status of lowering of drain on Yost Street.

Ms. Blair said that a foreman went out today to check on the drain.

2. Request status for paving Yost, Burwell, Naromake, and Sable.

Ms. Blair said that these streets are not in the five-year plan, but she submitted it to the engineer.

She added that there is uneven pavement at Quintard and Woodward, and at 53 Meadow Street, that can cause problems for cars.

MEADOW STREET; MORAVIA LANGLEY

Chairman Shockley said Ms. Langley was unable to attend. He reported that the sneakers have been removed from the overhead wires. The park has been cleaned up by the Recreation and Parks Department, but the litter has appeared again. This is an on-going problem.

BROAD RIVER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; DIANE LOCKWOOD

1. Eastern Farms and Jet Variety 4:30 a.m. garbage pickup noise violation

Ms. Lockwood was not able to attend.

WEST MAIN STREET; CHRISTINE ABRAHAM

Ms. Abraham was not able to attend. Ms. Bryan said that there is still a problem on Katherine Street, with cars parked too close to the intersection that makes it difficult to drive on the street. There are two houses that have cars parked right up to the fence. She had placed a call to the Police Department to report a turtle in the middle of the street. There was no Animal Control Officer on duty at the time.

1. Overnight and weekend parking of big box trucks on School Street

Chief Rilling said the trucks were ticketed.

2. 16 School Street sidewalk cleaning needed

Chairman Shockley said he has sent a request to the Housing Department to clean the sidewalks, and he is awaiting a response.

SPRING HILL/HOSPITAL AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; AL RAYMOND

Mr. Raymond thanked Mr. Eshraghi for taking care of the one-way street, stop signs, and crosswalk issues in the neighborhood. He thanked Mr. Alvord for removing the protruding rock on Saranak Road. He said that there is still enforcement needed for a stop sign at Stuart and for a one-way at Truman. Mr. Eshraghi said that all the signage has been taken care of. Chief Rilling said that he will look into it.

Ms. Paladino said that there has been a stray dog spotted in the neighborhood. The Animal Control Division said that the dog has been around for about a year, and they are trying to catch him.

She mentioned that there are cars parked too close to the intersection of Spring Hill Avenue and Gerard Avenue. Chief Rilling said that there will be a campaign city-wide to stop vehicles from violating parking rules. Ms. Paladino also mentioned that there is a litter problem farther up Gerard Avenue that had been cleaned up but is now occurring again.

WILTON AVENUE; MARK PIERCE

Mr. Pierce thanked Mr. Eshraghi for the crosswalk on Wilton Avenue. He didn't feel that it was slowing anyone down. There is still concern about speeding cars. He said that further down Wilton Avenue, there is a house renovation underway that is creating a traffic flow problem. Ms. Blair said that she has submitted a service request to paint the curb in front of Ash Creek Saloon to stop the trucks parking there during deliveries.

At Fair Street in Sentinel Park, there are numerous commercial trucks parked overnight. At the end of Forest Street, hedges were cut and the debris was removed, but they didn't finish picking up the rest of the street. There is a white pine tree blocking the stop sign at Tindall and Grand Street. Mr. Eshraghi said that Grand Street will become "No Parking" on one side. There is a fence at 7 Warren Street in the backyard that appeared to be a height violation. Ms. Blair said she will submit the request. At 28 Katherine Street, there appears to be a garbage problem on the front porch. The Health Department will look into it. He also said that the former MBI property is in need of maintenance. At 22 Katherine Street, the repair business is still on-going. Mr. Wrinn said he will send people out to take a look.

TRACEY AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; GLORIA SEYMOUR

Ms. Seymour said that they recently had a good meeting with about 12 people in attendance, and she thanked Mr. Clark for his efforts. She said the residents will be patient and cooperative as everyone works together to address the neighborhood concerns. Some issues in the neighborhood include speeding on all streets, people driving the wrong way on Ward Street, graffiti, and a possible rat infestation at 3 Cannon Street. The health department will look into it.

1. North Ave #'s 1-7 questions pertaining to number of occupants
2. Camp Street; illegal auto repair and dumping of car parts on lawn

HEATHER LANE; CINDY MOTTOLESE

1. Traffic calming concerns

Ms. Mottolese was unable to attend.

TREE ALLIANCE; DON NELSON

Mr. Nelson said that the arboretum at Columbus Magnet School is nearing completion, and there will be an official dedication ceremony, naming it the Rosa Parks Arboretum, in September. He said the City of Norwalk won 1st Place in the Home Depot/US Conference of Mayor's Award recently, with Mr. Alvord flying to Las Vegas to receive the \$75,000 check. There will be a presentation in Norwalk in the near future. He said that Chairman Shockley and Ms. Becker are putting together a database of associations and neighborhood coordinators. Ms. Becker said she needs the neighborhood boundaries sent to her.

Mr. Wagman from the West Norwalk Association asked if he could add some comments from his neighborhood. He said that they recently held a wine-and-cheese party that was successful in having the residents become interested in neighborhood concerns. They collected dues, and they received a donation from a businessman. With regard to the current topic of the bird flu, he mentioned that the City no longer picks up dead birds.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Rilling announced that at the request of Mayor Moccia, the next round of increased traffic enforcement will take place during the week of June 26. This will include "Slow and Quiet" enforcement, targeting speeding, loud motor vehicles, and an analysis of traffic accident areas.

Ms. Becker said that the next meeting of the CNNA will be on Monday night, June 12, at 7:30 p.m.

Chairman Shockley encouraged the neighborhood representatives to call, write, and/or send pictures to Customer Service and/or the appropriate departments in the weeks between the time they hold their meetings. This would cut down on discussion time during the meeting itself.

ADJOURN MEETING

**** CHAIRMAN SHOCKLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marr
Telesco Secretarial Services