

**CITY OF NORWALK  
MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 6, 2006**

**ATTENDANCE:** Richard A. Moccia, Mayor; David Shockley, Chairman;  
Don Nelson, Tree Advisory Committee & Norwalk Tree Alliance;  
Michael Moccia, Recreation & Parks Dept; Marilyn Maitland, Norwalk  
Health Dept; Glenn Iannaccone, Norwalk Fire Dept; Hal Alvord, Public  
Works Department; Laurel Anderson, City Scan;  
Connie Blair, Customer Service (10:15 a.m.);  
Gloria Seymour, Tracey Area Association;  
Moravia Langley, Meadow Street, (10:10 a.m.);  
Jim Clark, Katherine Griffing, Golden Hill Association;  
Dorothy & John Romanelli, Harbor Shores Association;  
Mark Pierce, Wilton Ave Association;  
Laurel Lindstrom, Eastern Norwalk Neighborhood Association;  
Maribeth Becker, Coalition Norwalk Neighborhood Association (10:15  
a.m.);  
Donnie Sellers, Lexington Avenue Association;  
Barbara Felter, Broad River Association

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Shockley called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. He and Mayor Moccia mentioned some points about the August meeting having only neighborhood representatives attend, without City Staff, and they both stressed the importance of having the neighborhood representatives send the issues to Customer Service prior to the meeting so that City Staff can review them.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE AUGUST 2, 2006 MEETING MINUTES**

- \*\* MS. ROMANELLI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 2, 2006.**
- \*\* MS. LINDSTROM SECONDED.**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED WITH ONE (1) ABSTENTION (CLARK).**

**WILTON AVENUE; MARK PIERCE**

1. "No Parking" signs needed on Grand Street
2. Graffiti on street signs on Grand Street.
3. Former MBI building becoming a dumping site with weeds and debris out of control.

Mr. Pierce said the graffiti on Grand Street had been cleaned up. Chairman Shockley said that the AIC crew had done the cleanup. Mr. Pierce said they are still waiting for the "No Parking" signs on Grand Street where the road narrows. He said that on Catherine Street, there appears to

be an illegal car repair shop being operated. Mayor Moccia told him to take some pictures and file the complaint so that a record becomes created for Customer Service to follow up on. He said that the former MBI building is showing signs of being vandalized and neglected. He provided Mayor Moccia with pictures of the garbage and debris, and Mayor Moccia said he will forward them to Redevelopment. Mayor Moccia said the building is in the process of being sold and most likely wouldn't be cleaned up until the new owner takes over.

Ms. Langley arrived at 10:10 a.m.

Mr. Pierce said that 28 Catherine Street still has a pile of debris in the back yard. Ms. Maitland said she sent a 5 day notice and will follow up.

Ms. Blair and Ms. Becker arrived at 10:15 a.m.

### **TRACEY AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; GLORIA SEYMOUR**

#### 1. Questions pertaining to blighted properties

Ms. Seymour said she thought there were some properties in her neighborhood that were blighted. The shack behind Theodore's had been ordered to be torn down, but it is still standing. There are houses on Camp and North that appear to be rooming houses. Mayor Moccia wanted to insure that blight doesn't get confused with Eminent Domain, and he said he would prefer to call it a neighborhood integrity ordinance. Ms. Seymour asked how a neighborhood could apply for a neighborhood bulky waste pickup. Ms. Blair said she would put her request on the list. Ms. Seymour said that 4 and 6 Camp Street appears to be a rooming house. Chairman Shockley said that Zoning is reviewing this. Ms. Seymour said that 3 Cannon Street appears to have a rat infestation problem. Ms. Maitland said she will review this.

### **LEXINGTON AVE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; DONNIE SELLERS**

Mr. Sellers said that there is a street sign broken at the stem, which left a sharp, jagged edge. Mr. Alvord asked Mr. Sellers to report it to Customer Service. Mr. Sellers asked if neighborhood volunteers could assist in cleaning up the catch basins. Mr. Alvord said no, as it is heavy lifting and could be a liability issue, but he did recommend that volunteers rake off the top of the drains to keep them clear. Mr. Sellers asked about the opportunity of Auxiliary Policing. Mayor Moccia said that it is no longer possible. Mr. Sellers said the Lexington Avenue Neighborhood Association will be meeting soon.

### **EASTERN NORWALK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; LAUREL LINDSTROM**

1. 181 East Ave. illegal car sales in parking lot and on street.
2. Traffic problems related to exit 16 at intersection of East Ave at St. John and East Ave. at Olmstead.

Ms. Lindstrom mentioned the 181 East Ave lot appearing to have cars for sale. Mayor Moccia said that he has passed the property several times, and he didn't see any signs of cars being sold. Ms. Lindstrom said that the problem disappears and then reappears again. Chairman Shockley said he will look into it. She mentioned the flooding issues in the Eastern Norwalk Association area. She said it had been addressed at the DPW meeting. There still appears to be traffic issues on East Avenue. Mr. Alvord explained that there will always be traffic volume issues on East Avenue, and the reconstruction project for Exit 16 could possibly alleviate the problem at Olmstead Place. Ms. Lindstrom said that Mr. Alvord had attended the ENNA meeting in August and answered questions for the residents.

### **HARBOR SHORES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; DOROTHY ROMANELLI**

Ms. Romanelli thanked those involved for fixing the drain on Yost Street. It appears to be working well. She said the Association hasn't met for two months, and she will bring issues forward the next time they meet.

### **MEADOW STREET: MORAVIA LANGLEY**

#### 1. Safety concerns at Meadow Street Park

Ms. Langley said that she called Customer Service last week to ask for a cleanup of the park. She said she took pictures and emailed them to Customer Service. She said that the cleanup had taken place that day, and she thanked Customer Service for their follow-through. But she asked if she would have to continually ask for park cleanups, or email pictures for proof. She was under the impression that other parks were cleaned on a regular basis. Mr. Moccia said that even though there are trash bins in the park, people don't use them. It was suggested that they close the park if it is not going to be kept clean. He said that 200 volunteers from Tauck Tours will be in Meadow Gardens, Ryan, Woodward Avenue and Bouton parks in October to do a clean-up. Ms. Langley mentioned that the cars parked in front of LaJoie's business continue to be a problem. It is a difficult problem to monitor, but it was decided that it will be discussed further with LaJoie.

### **BROAD RIVER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; DIANE LOCKWOOD**

1. Noise ordinance concerns: private garbage trucks picking up from commercial properties on Rt. 123 at 4 a.m.
2. Can we get the power turned on to light the Harris Street parking lot, which has become a night-time hang out for undesirables?

Ms. Lockwood was unable to attend, but Ms. Barbara Felter was present and spoke about the dumpster garbage being picked up in the early morning. Mr. Alvord said the noise ordinance states 7:00 a.m. as the earliest time. It was suggested that they get the name of the company picking up the garbage. She mentioned that the telephone poles running along the fence in the field on Harris Street park still aren't installed. Mr. Alvord said he will talk to CL&P about it.

She said that the police did patrol the Harris Street parking lot over the summer, but now that the lights are off, it appears that the activity has started up again. There is no power going to the pole.

**WEST MAIN STREET; CHRISTINE ABRAHAM**

Ms. Abraham was not able to attend.

**SPRING HILL/HOSPITAL AREA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; AL RAYMOND**

Mr. Raymond and Ms. Paladino were unable to attend. Chairman Shockley said they were requesting to schedule a fall clean-up. Mr. Alvord said that the neighborhood clean-ups have turned into bulky waste pickup programs. He said they had developed a pilot program and conducted it in Eastern Norwalk, but they didn't get a large response, possibly due to advertising issues. They will run the program again with proper advertising, and the intention is to eventually have an annual bulky-waste pickup program by day of the week pickup, rather than the weekends.

**GOLDEN HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION; JIM CLARK**

1. Vandalism and neglect concerns at Foder Farm

Mr. Clark said he has been instructing the neighborhood residents to call Customer Service with any issues regarding the neighborhood. He said he was approached by many of the residents about the vandalism and neglect concerns at Foder Farm, and he said they asked him to bring it to the meeting. Mayor Moccia explained that they would like to put the houses up for sale as soon as possible.

**NORWALK ASSOCIATION OF SILVERMINE HOMEOWNERS; LEIGH GRANT**

Ms. Grant was unable to attend, but Chairman Shockley said he had received one topic from her via email regarding the graffiti and drug use at the Silvermine School playground area. City Scan did take photographs, and Chairman Shockley encouraged the Silvermine area residents to call the police to report any suspicious activity. Mr. Moccia said that a gate was installed by the Recreation and Parks Department to prevent cars from going back there after dark, but now it appears that neighborhood kids are walking over the bridge into the playground.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE; CONNIE BLAIR**

Ms. Blair said it's important that the Police Department be contacted first about speeding cars, illegal parking, etc. and then have Customer Service follow-up on the issue.

**TREE ALLIANCE; DON NELSON**

Mr. Nelson said that there will be a dedication of the Rosa Parks Arboretum at Columbus Magnet School on September 27, 2006 at 12:00 noon. Home Depot will give a presentation on the \$75,000 grant that the Neighborhood Tree Alliance received.

Ms. Romanelli asked if the trees will be planted this Fall for the Harbor Shores neighborhood. Mr. Alvord said they finished the planting plan with Ms. Garrett, and it should be completed soon, along with Farm Creek.

### **CITY SCAN; LAUREL ANDERSON**

Ms. Anderson said they are planning a kick-off in September.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Moccia mentioned a graffiti problem on a stop sign on Wolfpit Avenue.

Ms. Becker said the next CNNA meeting is Monday, September 11, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. in Room A300.

Chairman Shockley said the next Mayor's Neighborhood Preservation Meeting is October 4, and he reminded everyone to submit their agenda items by September 20.

### **ADJOURN MEETING**

**\*\* CHAIRMAN SHOCKLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marr  
Telesco Secretarial Services