

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

**June 8, 2005
Minutes**

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

Other members: Nick Overall

1. Meeting called to order 7:40 PM.
2. Public participation on non-agenda items: none.
3. May 11 minutes as presented; approved unanimously.
4. Reports:
 - a. Treasurer's Report – Gordon Tully
 - i. No activity so status quo
 - b. President's Report – Laurel Lindstrom
 - i. See attached president's report for details.
 - ii. Laurel Lindstrom to attend ProBono workshop, June 9; \$20 fee to be reimbursed from ENNA funds + travel. Workshop to focus on website, technology and fundraising.
 - iii. Received communications
 1. Cove Avenue member called; is willing to be street representative; interested in getting speed bumps on road. Laurel put the caller in touch with the appropriate city agency to discuss.
 2. Individual on Myrtle Street called to state interest in joining but can't attend tonight; will attend a future meeting.
 3. The new fire chief, Denis McCarthy, sent letter of introduction and plans to attend a meeting as part of his getting to know Norwalk and the neighborhood associations.
 - iv. Suggestion is made that only one member of ENNA should take on assignments for CNNA to keep from over-working our limited "people resources"
 - v. Gordon Tully submitted DEP memo on solid waste management.
 - c. Tree Liaison – Nick Overall
 - i. Nick has requested two trees from the city for the Marvin Senior Apartments; originally requested three; now looks like maybe only get 1
5. Programs and Projects:
 - a. Adopt a Spot
 - i. Need to sign the waiver for the spot at Tierney Street and Strawberry Hill Avenue.
 - ii. East Norwalk Train Station
 1. First objective is to get rid of the billboards. MetroNorth has agreed to removal but Lamar (apparently) was not informed. Laurel met with Lamar representative, Paul Coggin (3rd taxing district commissioner), Karen Page (ENIA rep). At the meeting Lamar expressed their unwillingness to remove the billboards and offered other alternatives: decrease the size, modify for a historic look, etc. Plan of the representatives of the groups meeting with Lamar is to meet with their groups for a response to the offers.
 2. MOTION: Support the MetroNorth position to permanently remove the billboards on their property on the east side of East Avenue and continue to work with 3rd taxing district and ENIA to remove the other two billboards on the West side. Maribeth makes the motion; Erik seconds, Passes unanimously.
 3. Lamar has cleaned up the area but has added plants that are not in the best landscaping interest of the site, Nick (as the ENNA member overseeing the landscaping plans for the site) will meet with Paul Coggin and Pam Parkington

- (ENIA representative for the landscaping of the site). 3rd taxing district will monitor and pay for materials (as an adopt-a-spot for 3rd taxing district.)
4. Nick Overall presents some preliminary ideas for landscaping at the train station; will be developed in conjunctions with other parties involved.
- iii. Strawberry Hill/ Tierney Adopt a Spot
 1. Ideas for planting are discussed; Nick mentions low ornamental grasses, mugho pine, Black-eyed Susans, Russian sage, etc.
 2. Nick will develop plan and arrange for plants in July.
 - b. Newsletter
 - i. Discussions tabled to P&P meeting
 - c. Ludlow and Liberty Square Revitalization
 - i. Next steps in plan:
 1. ACTION: Discuss sidewalk improvements with Hal Alvord/ DPW; invite Alvord to a future ENNA meeting.
 2. Develop a strategy for traffic around the cemetery. Gordon Tully suggests intervening early so that we are ahead of DOT plans and avoid the “4-lane mentality”
 3. Look into traffic studies for East Avenue, West Avenue, Strofollino Bridge, Main Avenue and Westport Avenue. Keep an eye on what the studies reveal.
 - d. Roundabouts (and other traffic related issues)
 - i. Gordon Tully attended workshop; made a strong recommendation to Mike DiScala on the value of roundabouts in his development area (Wall Street).
 - ii. NY State DOT mandates that the first choice for an intersection be a roundabout instead of signalized. Study shows roundabouts are safer. Bob White, host of roundabout seminars, offers ideas how to get the process started.
 - iii. Gordon’s goal: get the city involved and convince them that this will work.
 - iv. Discussion about Exit 16 and widening of East Avenue south of exit 16. ACTION: Laurel to try to get plans form CT DOT for the area.
 - e. East Norwalk Cemetery Historic Designation – no new information
 - f. Watch list properties:
 1. Pepperidge Farm site. Zoning Commission meeting on July 15.
 2. Fitch Park. No new news.
 3. Norden Park. Gordon Tully spoke to Walter Briggs (Planning Commission) who indicated that it was unlikely the property would be approved for housing.
6. Other Business: none
 7. Next regular board meeting: Wednesday July 13, 2005, Room 101, City Hall
 8. Meeting adjourned at 9:45.

Respectfully submitted, Marija Bryant, Secretary.