

## **BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.**

#### **JOAN WILLIAMSON ALDERMANIC CHAMBERS**

#### **MINUTES**

Chair Ronald Sill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

#### **Roll Call**

Present: Ronald Sill, Barbara L. DeGennaro, Anthony Staffieri, Carmen DiCenso

Also Present: The Honorable Mayor Anita Dugatto  
Keith A. McLiverty, City Treasurer  
Marc J. Garofalo, Town & City Clerk  
Anthony DeFala, Street Commissioner  
Alderman Stephen Iacuone  
Alderman Joseph DiMartino  
Alderman Thomas Donofrio  
Laura Brezina, Derby Cultural Commission  
Thomas Welch, Corporation Counsel

#### **ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to add new item #10 – Vendor Permit License – Joseph Miani, Joe's Dogs, LLC – 12 Main Street, Derby – adjournment will now be item #11. **Motion carried.**

#### **PUBLIC PORTION**

Mr. Sill asked if anyone wished to speak during public portion.

#### **Tim Conlon**

My family's been in Derby since the 1800's. We've been giving back to the community as much as we could. I'm also a Police Officer here – obviously you guys know that. We've been having a rash of juvenile complaints on Hawkins Street in the area of 100 particularly. There's a couple of juvenile kids that have their basketball hoop out there. In that area the backyards are pretty tight so they don't have any other place to shoot hoops. We've been getting close to like 80 calls from the past year for these kids playing basketball in the middle of the road. So we go there and we kick them off and then they go back the next day, etc...etc... The other day I spoke to a couple of family members on the road, street and they're more concerned for their safety. Now the big picture in my vision is there's a lot across the street from where the Diablos are – it's just a grass lot, pretty much overgrown – no one is using it – I'm not sure who owns it. But looking at it I think that would be a perfect spot for a basketball hoop – possibly a little playground for all the other little kids in the area. We have a lot of complaints of kids running in the middle of the road. Luckily we haven't had a kid get hit by a car yet. Shelton has had a couple – but it's only a matter of time. So I wanted to bring it to the

board to see if there's anything we can do. I don't mind being the work horse on it. I spoke to one of the property owners of 78 Hawkins Street and she said she was willing to actually donate some money for that cause.

Mr. DiCenso – Where's the lot located? Mr. Conlon said it is right across from where the Diablos are. Ms. Finn said the City does own it. Years ago, like 1996, there were two blighted buildings and we took them down through Small Cities with the hope that one day we would rebuild. Mr. Sill asked Mr. DeFala if there is anything we can do with it. Mr. DeFala said he can do anything that you want me to do. Mr. Sill stated that we would have to bring it up to the full Board.

There was a suggestion about putting hoops down at Irving School. Mr. Conlon said the lot was his ultimate vision but for now hoops at Irving would do. The only problem is the kids that he's talking about are young and once they get to Irving they'll get bullied off the courts by the older kids. He said they're just too young to walk all the way over to the High School. Mr. Conlon said he feels if we were to make it look nice on that lot that hopefully it might filter down throughout the entire neighborhood. Bring more pride to their properties and the entire area. He also said if they have a basketball in their hand they won't have a rock, gun, drugs... Mr. Conlon again stated that he didn't mind being the work horse behind this idea.

Ms. DeGennaro stated we all know summer is short and this is not an item on the agenda this evening. We will have to put it on for the full Board. She said we would need additional information for this project. Mr. Staffieri asked Mr. DeFala if he could possibly get something together for these kids. Mr. DeFala said he could probably have something done before the end of summer. He noted that there are topography issues with the lot that we're discussing. He said he doesn't want to put a damper on this but the season is short and money is going to be needed. Mr. DeFala said he would be willing to put something together monetarily – it might not happen this summer though. Mr. Conlon said he is also willing to talk to other officers for their input. Ms. DeGennaro noted that have to consider liability issues. We really can't do this quick. Mr. DeFala said he sees getting the ball rolling and have something ready for next spring.

**THE COMMITTEE WILL FORWARD THIS IDEA TO THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN FOR DISCUSSION.**

Art Gerckens, 374 Hawthorne Avenue, Derby, CT

A constituent of mine asked to get something put on the agenda. She was going to try and come to the meeting but she had to go to work unfortunately. But it has to do with parking in front of the bungalows on Hawthorne Avenue. I know it's on but she's frustrated because she said several administrations now she's been bringing this up and nothing gets done. So at least I'm glad to see it on the agenda and you know whether it goes to the local traffic authority or whatever at least we can show that...

Mr. Sill – If that's the way that we have to do it maybe we can follow up with it when it goes. But we'll discuss it.

Laura Brezina, Derby Cultural Commission

We've been saving some money from the concert series because we were hoping to do a water park for the kids. Unfortunately the City doesn't have enough water for us

to do a water park anywhere. So the water park idea is out so we would love to help out somehow with the basketball.

**Mr. Sill asked three times if anyone else wished to address the committee. Hearing no requests the public portion was closed.**

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS MEETING DATED MAY 10, 2016**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Staffieri with a second by Ms. DeGennaro to approve the Minutes of the May 10, 2016 meeting as presented. **Motion carried.**

#### **REQUEST FROM PROPERTY OWNER FOR HANDICAP PARKING IN FRONT OF HAWTHORNE AVENUE BUNGALOWS. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

Ms. DeGennaro said she knows from the past that the person who has requested this had gone to the Police Commission over the years. Mr. Sill asked if it has been rejected. Ms. DeGennaro said she believes it was. She believes though they were asking for a specific spot. This requests looks like they're looking for a permit parking only area similar to what we have near the Courthouse and Minerva Street area. It states that there are a number of apartments and there are no driveways. Ms. DeGennaro said reading this she can't tell if the person is asking for a handicap spot or if she's asking for special permit parking. She said if that's the case then on our end we would have to do an Ordinance similar to the other one. If its handicap then we can't designate that – she believes she would have to go to the local traffic authority.

Mr. DiCenso asked Mr. DeFala if parking in the winter is one-side of the street parking. Mr. DeFala said it is alternate side parking. Mr. DeFala said he attempted to get parallel parking on Garden Place and there's a new mandate from the State that will not allow you to put a handicap space parallel on the road.

After more discussion the committee said they really don't have enough information as to this request. Mr. Gerckens said he would reach out to the person for further clarification.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to **TABLE** this item until more information is received. **Motion carried.**

#### **REQUEST FROM THE DERBY CULTURAL COMMISSION TO ASSIST THE "WHEELMEN" AT THE DERBY DAY CELEBRATION ON JUNE 25, 2016**

Ms. Brezina said the "Wheelmen" are the individuals who ride the large antique bikes. The "Wheelmen" are performing in honor of Pierre Lallement, the inventor of the bicycle who apparently rode through Derby. It was noted that Ansonia's Pierre Lallement Day is also happening on June 25, 2016. Ms. DeGennaro asked Ms. Brezina for further clarification of her request. Ms. Brezina said she is not asking for any streets to be closed. She would just like to reserve the parking spaces on the corner of Elizabeth and Thompson Place – across from the parking garage. They will also be using the Greenway. Ms. Brezina said she is anticipating 10-25 bikes. Mr. Sill said we can request that the parking meters be bagged in that location.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to recommend the request from the Derby Cultural Commission to assist the "Wheelmen" at the Derby Day

Celebration on June 25, 2016 and to seek permission to bag the parking meters on Thompson Place on that date. **Motion carried.**

**REQUEST FROM TWO ROADS AND THE HOPS COMPANY TO HOST A 5K ROAD RACE ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2016 TO BENEFIT THE LITERACY VOLUNTEERS OF GREATER NEW HAVEN. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

Nina (last name not known), Event Coordinator for the Hops Company was present to discuss their request to host a 5k Road Race on October 29, 2016. She reviewed the race course for the committee and noted that it slightly goes into Ansonia. Mr. Sill asked if she has approached the Police Commission. Nina said she was advised to get approval from the subcommittee first. Mr. Sill said she would also need approval from the full Board of Aldermen. Ms. DeGennaro noted that this was on the agenda last month and no one from The Hops Company was present. She told Nina that she would recommend that she approach the local traffic authority first since the race course would be happening on a very busy road.

Mr. DiCenso asked Nina if they have considered any alternative routes. She said they haven't; however they are open to any suggestions. They would be more than happy to do whatever needs to be done to hold this race. Atty. Welch noted that the information sent to the committee states that a portion of the proceeds will be going to a non-profit. He asked where the remaining funds will go. Nina said it is actually pretty expensive to hold a road race. She said no profit will be taken by either the Hops Company or Two Roads from the actual road race portion. Mr. DiCenso said then after expenses all proceeds will go to a non-profit.

Mr. Garofalo said before Nina started with the Hops Company they had submitted a letter and the police said to go to the aldermen first. He said he believes the police just want to know conceptually whether or not you would approve this before further details are worked out. Ms. DeGennaro said the information that we have received has been rather vague. Mr. Sill said we can approve the concept and bring it to the full board and then forward it to the Police Department for the finer details to be worked out. Mr. DiCenso asked how many runners they expect. Nina said this is the first annual so can cap the number of runners to what the Police Department would like.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen the recommend the concept from Two Roads and the Hops Company to host a 5k Road Race on Saturday, October 29, 2016 to benefit the Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven. **Motion carried.**

**APPLICATION FOR VENDOR PERMIT LICENSE FOR JOSEPH P. MIANI OF JOE'S DOGS, LLC – 12 MAIN STREET, DERBY, CT. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**

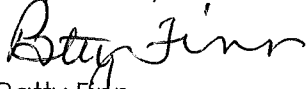
Ms. DeGennaro noted that we will need a copy of the Food Service License and also the results from the police background check. Mr. Garofalo said the background check is complete and he also has a copy of the Food Service License.

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Staffieri with a second by Mr. DiCenso to recommend to the full Board of Aldermen the application for a vendor permit license for Joseph P. Miani pending receipt of the background results and Food Service License. **Motion carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**A MOTION** was made by Mr. Sill with a second by Mr. Staffieri to adjourn the meeting at 6:59 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patty Finn".

Patty Finn  
Recording Secretary

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN COMMUNITY RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE AT THEIR NEXT MEETING.**