

BOARD OF ALDERMEN
COMMUNITY RELATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016 – 6:30 P.M.
JOAN WILLIAMSON ALDERMANIC CHAMBERS
MINUTES

Chair Ron Sill called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m. All rose and pledged allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call

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

Also Present: The Honorable Mayor Anita Dugatto
Keith A. McLiverty, City Treasurer
Anthony DeFala, Street Commissioner
Alderman Steven Iacune
Alderman Thomas Donofrio
Alderman Joseph DiMartino
Marc J. Garofalo, Town & City Clerk
Thomas Welch, Corporation Counsel

ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

There is a request from Ms. DiMartino to seek permission to hold a bonfire on Wednesday, November 23, 2016 (night before Thanksgiving Day game) which will be new item #11 with adjournment being #12.

PUBLIC PORTION

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS MEETING DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

A MOTION was made by Mr. Staffieri with a second by Mr. Sill to approve the Minutes of the September 13, 2016 meeting as presented. Ms. DeGennaro abstained. **Motion carried.**

PRESENTATION BY JOSEPH MIGANI FOR PROPOSED HOTEL ON ELIZABETH STREET.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Mr. Migani was present to discuss the plans that he has prepared to build a boutique hotel and millennial apartments at 101 Elizabeth Street, which is the present home to Plaza on the Green. He said this site was chosen due to its location across the street from the Sterling Opera House and next to the Derby Green, two iconic sites in downtown Derby. Mr. Migani said if this project was approved for construction they

would also ask for a 99 year lease for the Sterling Opera House to make that a hospitality center in conjunction with the hotel. He informed the committee that he has already presented an earlier version to the Planning & Zoning Commission. He noted that there would also be underground parking structure built. Mr. Migani handed out information showing different versions in height, etc... for the proposed hotel and millennial apartments. Mr. Staffieri asked the impact that the structure would have with taxes. Mr. Migani said it would have an assessed value of \$50 million±, which would generate close to \$1 million in private tax revenue.

Mr. Sill said he always wanted to see something like this in downtown. Mr. DiCenso asked Mr. Migani if the next step would be to go back to Planning & Zoning. Mr. Migani said the Mayor has requested for us to wait for the zone change and then we would go back to Planning & Zoning.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION ON HAWKINS STREET BASKETBALL/RECREATION AREA

Mr. Sill said he reached out to Mr. Conlon to inform him that this would be on the agenda this evening. He asked if there have been any changes or updates on this item. Mr. DeFala said he has spoken with numerous contractors about this project and he said that his department is ready to assist the contractors when the time comes. Ms. Finn stated that she and Ms. Creane have been searching for grants to undertake this project. Mr. DeFala stressed the safety factors that need to go hand-in-hand with this court – sidewalks, fencing, ADA requirements, etc...No action to be taken.

REQUEST FROM TRACEY GRANT TO USE THE BRADLEY SCHOOL FIELD ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2016 FOR GIRLS VARSITY SOCCER 20 YEAR REUNION

Mr. Sill noted that whatever decision is reached here this evening there won't be enough time to present it to the full Board of Aldermen. Ms. DeGennaro asked if this is the High School. She didn't feel that it's been twenty years. Is there any backup to this request? Mr. Sill said he received a phone call. Mr. Garofalo said if the request comes to his office he asks the individual to write out what they are requesting. Ms. DeGennaro asked what exactly do they plan on doing up at Bradley School? Atty. Welch asked if they would be using the field to hold a soccer game. Dennis O'Connell, the Parks & Recreation Director, said they just want to go to Bradley School to use the pavilion. He said it's been twenty years since the first soccer team. He said he will contact the Public Works department to make sure the area is in good shape. Mr. O'Connell said he envisions them playing half a game and then perhaps have a snack. He said he didn't really know about approaching the Board of Aldermen since there are no finances involved. Atty. Welch said that's why I thought that Parks & Rec would have been involved. Ms. DeGennaro said we can really open up a can of worms if we don't know what they plan on using it for. She said with people using the picnic grove we can always waive the fees. It's not just a monetary thing. Mr. O'Connell said it seems pretty nondescript to him. Atty. Welch said if someone calls to just use the field we can send them to Parks & Recreation. Perhaps we can take the opportunity to see if this is something that we might want to establish. Mr. DiCenso said he doesn't want to replace the picnic grove with anything else. Mr. O'Connell said he schedules the picnic grove Monday through Friday. Mr. DiMartino noted that there are also signs up

at Bradley that says "No Unauthorized Play." Atty. Welch said he agrees with Ms. DeGennaro that this is something that should be looked into.

REQUEST FROM MS. DIMARTINO TO HOLD A BONFIRE AT THE PICNIC GROVE ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2016 (NIGHT BEFORE THANKSGIVING DAY GAME)

Mr. Staffieri asked if this would be held on the parking lot pavement. Mr. DeFala said it would not – there is a section at the picnic grove that would contain the bonfire.

A MOTION was made by Ms. DeGennaro with a second by Mr. Staffieri to forward the request from Ms. DiMartino to hold a bonfire at the picnic grove on Wednesday, November 23, 2016 to the full Board of Aldermen for approval. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Staffieri with a second by Ms. DeGennaro to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,



Patty Finn
Recording Secretary

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