

Wethersfield Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Harbor Management Commission
Minutes - Thursday, November 17, 2011

The meeting was held at the Wethersfield Town Hall and called to order by Acting Chairperson Dan Silbo at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Acting Chairperson Dan Silbo, Peter Mozzicato, Carmelo Amoddio and John Rascius. Also present were Mike Hurley, Council Liaison, Kathleen Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation, and Erin O'Neill, representative for Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge.

A. Public Comments.

Erin O'Neill, representative for Neighbor to Neighbor Energy Challenge gave a brief presentation on this program. She explained that it is sponsored by the Town and helps residents reduce energy in their homes. The program ends September 2012 and they are doing presentations to many boards and commissions to remind them about this program. Residents can register for a home visit to have experts evaluate their house for energy savings. Their website is www.ctenergychallenge.com. Acting chairperson Silbo thanked her for providing the Board with this information.

B. Minutes – October 27, 2011.

Carmelo Amoddio moved to approve the minutes of October 27, 2011. The motion was seconded by John Rascius and approved unanimously.

C. Monthly Report – September 2011.

The Monthly Report was reviewed by Board members.

D. Letters and Announcements.

1. Holiday on Main Street – December 1, 2011. Ms. Bagley gave board members an update on the planned festivities for this event.
2. Santa's Pancake Breakfast – December 3, 2011. This annual event attracts approximately 600 people each year and the funds raised support the Town's Special Olympics program.

E. Old Business.

None.

F. New Business.

1. Operation of Community Center as Town Shelter for Storm Alfred.
Ms. Bagley provided an overview of the Town's shelter operation at the Community Center during Storm Alfred. The shelter was open for eight days from Saturday, October 29 through Saturday, November 4 and had 579 people stay overnight throughout the week. Meals were served to 3,700 people and 2,750 visitors stopped by the shelter to get warm, take showers and charge their electronics. Mr. Hurley mentioned that he was at the shelter one evening when the generator stopped working. Staff handled the situation calmly, contacted the appropriate personnel and got the generator working within 45 minutes. Most people staying overnight slept through this incident.

G. Board Member Comments.

1. Mr. Mozzicato inquired on how the decision was made to close all athletic fields for the week after the storm. He was at a Little League meeting with representatives from Eagles Youth Football and they asked this question. Ms. Bagley explained that the Town Manager had twice daily briefings with all department heads, emergency personnel and school staff including the school superintendent during this week. At one of those meetings based on safety conditions throughout the Town, a decision was made to close all athletic fields through Sunday, November 6.
2. Next Meeting – December 15, 2011.
Board members decided to hold next month's meeting at Lucky Lou's restaurant on Main Street.

H. Harbor Management Commission.

1. Harbor Management Plan.

Acting Chairperson, Dan Silbo asked Ms. Bagley to distribute draft #2. She went over the proposed changes to the plan based on feedback from the public at their last meeting. Board members agreed with the changes and will vote on accepting this plan at their December meeting. Ms. Bagley will get a copy of this draft to the State for their preliminary review.

2. Mooring Rentals.

One suggestion on the renting of moorings each season was proposed to Ms. Bagley and Mr. Forsdick from members of the Wethersfield Cove Yacht Club. They suggested allowing individuals who had a mooring the previous year to renew that same mooring for the upcoming year. Commission members will discuss this suggestion at a future meeting.

I. Motion to Adjourn.

A motion was made by John Rascius and seconded by Carmelo Amoddio to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Bagley, Director
Parks & Recreation Department