

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2011**

ATTENDANCE: 1st Selectman David Campbell; David Bayne;
Gerald Nielsen; Jayme Stevenson

STAFF: Karl Kilduff, Administrative Officer

OTHERS: Holly Schultz;
Sue Swiatek, Parks & Recreation Commission Director
Gerald Kutz, Darien Boat Club

CALL TO ORDER

1st Selectman Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

1st Selectman Campbell said he was in Hartford on April 13 for the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities Meeting, where over 100 Mayors and 1st Selectmen were present to express concerns about cutting aid. He said that at this point, everything is going forward with no spending cuts to any municipalities.

1st Selectmen Campbell said he recently attended a lunch with 13 Fairfield County Selectmen. He said most of them were experiencing problems with their budgets. He said that Darien was the only town having an increase in enrollment numbers in the schools. He said that Monroe, CT is closing one school.

He said he had a meeting with Amy Allen, Director of the Darien Arts Center, who is looking for adjustments in the Facility Use Agreement. They need this from the Board of Selectmen in order to get P&Z approval for usage of the building.

1st Selectmen Campbell said he met with Nina Miller and Deepika Saksena of Darien's Choose to Reuse, after they had given their presentation to the Board of Selectmen on April 11, 2011 meeting. Mr. Nielsen was also present at the meeting. They discussed trying to work together for 6 months to have a volunteer ban. He said he would like to have them on the Board of Selectmen agenda for a follow-up meeting.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Kilduff said the Board of Selectmen recently received the budget book, which reflects the Board of Finance's work on the budget. Besides some adjustments to the capital

projects, the biggest add was including additional funding for oil. The oil prices continue to escalate. The natural gas connection for Town Hall could be installed as early as the start of the heating season this year. He attended a Peer-to-Peer Meeting that SWRPA hosted. Ideas were exchanged, and comments were similar among the attendees regarding the price of parking and the need for parking. He said that Darien has the lowest daily parking rate at \$3.00 per day.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Holly Schultz, 543 Hoyt Street, said she wanted to hear an update on the sidewalk project. She hadn't gotten any information over the last few weeks. She said neighbors are asking her what the status is. She doesn't feel the project is moving fast enough and wants to see the Board of Selectmen say or do something regarding pedestrian safety. There haven't been new sidewalks for 24 years, except for two by Brookside. There should be a plan and a budget for the sidewalk, as there is a specific need for it near the train station. Crosswalks would be a solution to the speeding and would provide needed traffic-calming measures.

Mr. Bayne suggested this be put on an upcoming agenda for an update.

Ms. Stevenson explained that there is a household user survey in progress for the Hoyt Street sidewalk project. She said they have met with the Darien Police Department, SWRPA and the DOT, and there was no agreement on what would be effective traffic calming measures. She emphasized that the DOT is not necessarily interested in slowing the traffic in that area; they want to keep traffic moving but want to keep pedestrians safe. The DOT needs to approve it, and it would include more than signage and crosswalks. It is a state road that needs state approval. She mentioned that from the last meeting, it was suggested they would investigate a walking path or an engineered sidewalk.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Discuss and Take Action on a Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of a Gift of Fitness Trail Equipment and Installation for Weed Beach from the Pioneering Healthy Communities Initiative Through the Darien YMCA

Ms. Susan Swiatek, Director of the Parks & Recreation Commission, presented and provided information on the fitness trail equipment for Weed Beach.

**** MR. NIELSEN MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GIFT OF FITNESS TRAIL EQUIPMENT AND INSTALLATION FOR WEED BEACH FROM THE PIONEERING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE THROUGH THE DARIEN YMCA**

WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-33 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN, THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN IS EMPOWERED ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN TO ACCEPT GIFTS, PROVIDED GIFTS DO NOT HAVE A AVALUE IN EXCESS OF TEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00); AND

WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-33A OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN, SAID GIFTS IN EXCESS OF TEN THOUSAND AND 00-100 DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) MAY BE ACCEPTED WITH ACTION BY THE REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN; AND

WHEREAS, THE DARIEN YMCA ENGAGED COMMUNITIES LEADERS IN THE PIONEERING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE WITH THE HELP OF GRANT FUNDING FROM THE ROBERT WOODS JOHNSON FOUNDATION IN ADDITION TO NON-PROFIT PARTNERS LIKE THE RUDD CENTER OF YALE AND NORWALK HOSPITAL; AND

WHEREAS, IN THE PIONEERING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE REPORT, IT WAS RECOMMENDED “TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY DESIGN TO ...ENCOURAGE PHYSICAL ACTIVITY IN TOWN” WHICH WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED THROUGH SEVERAL ACTION STEPS THAT INCLUDED THE INSTALLATION OF “ONE OUTDOOR FITNESS TRAINING CIRCUIT” IN A LOCAL PARK; AND

WHEREAS, THE GIFT HAS A VALUE OF UP TO \$50,000; AND

WHEREAS, THE PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDED THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE GIFT OF FITNESS TRAIL EQUIPMENT AND ITS INSTALLATION AT WEED BEACH, DURING ITS REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 13, 2011; AND

WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN WISHES TO HAVE THIS GIFT ACCEPTED TO SUPPORT A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE IN DARIEN AS WELL AS IMPROVE AMENITIES AT WEED BEACH.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE ACCEPTANCE OF THIS GIFT AND DIRECTS THAT THIS RESOLUTION BE FORWARDED TO THE REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING FOR ITS CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL.

**** MS. STEVENSON SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- b) Discuss and Take Action on Resolution Authorizing the City of Stamford as the Region 1 Agent for the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Region 1 Municipalities for Federal Fiscal Year 2008 Grant Funding

Mr. Kilduff explained this had to be reauthorized to reflect the current elected leadership.

**** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF STAMFORD AS THE REGION 1 AGENT FOR THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY REGION 1 MUNICIPALITIES FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2008 GRANT FUNDING**

WHEREAS, THE TOWN OF DARIEN APPROVED A RESOLUTION IN 2008 AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF STAMFORD TO SERVE AS THE AGENT RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDING; AND

WHEREAS, THE LENGTH OF TIME NEEDED TO PROCESS OF PROCUREMENT OF INTEROPERABILITY COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT FOR REGION 1 RESULTED IN A CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP FOR MANY MUNICIPALITIES IN REGION 1; AND

WHEREAS, THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY AS WELL AS THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY ARE SEEKING A RENEWAL OF THE AUTHORIZATION PREVIOUSLY GRANTED TO THE CITY OF STAMFORD TO SERVE AS THE AGENT RESPONSIBLE FOR GRANT FUND ADMINISTRATION; AND

WHEREAS, THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN WISH THE TOWN OF DARIEN TO BE A BENEFICIARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FUNDING WHICH WILL BE COMMITTED TO INTEROPERABILITY COMMUNICATIONS IN THE REGION.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE CITY OF STAMFORD AS THE REGION 1 AGENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY (DEMHS) REGION 1 MUNICIPALITIES TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY A CERTAIN MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (THE "MOA"), IN THE FORM ATTACHED HERETO AND TO DO AND

PERFORM ALL ACTS AND THINGS WHICH THE REGION 1 AGENT DEEMS NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO CARRY OUT THE TERMS OF THE MOA.

- ** MS. STEVENSON SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- c) Discuss and Take Action on Approval of Changes to the By-Laws of the Darien Boat Club in Accordance with the Lease Agreement

Mr. Gerald Kutz presented information on the amendment proposed to the By-Laws and House and Ground Rules for the Darien Boat Club. He said the Darien Boat Club would like to change the way that waitlists are ordered at the club. They would like to order all wait lists by “membership date” for a specific facility or service, as opposed to “date of application”. Many members assumed they were automatically put on a wait list for a boat slip by joining the boat club and paying their membership dues. They must apply separately.

This was tabled until further discussion with Town Council can take place. There were two, possibly three members of the Board of Selectmen who are members of the Darien Boat Club.

- d) Transfers

Public Works Department

RESOLVED:

That the following transfer of appropriations is approved for referral to the Board of Finance:

From:

<u>Acct. No</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10402144-81001	Full Time Salary	\$ 9,100
	TOTAL	\$ 9,100

To:

<u>Acct. No</u>	<u>Account</u>	<u>Amount</u>
10402144-81003	Seasonal/Temp.	\$ 9,100
	TOTAL	\$ 9,100

- ** MS. STEVENSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF \$9,100 FROM THE FULL TIME SALARY ACCOUNT (10402144-81001) TO THE SEASONAL/TEMP ACCOUNT (10402144-81003).**
- ** MR. BAYNE SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

AGENDA REVIEW

Mr. Bayne requested an update on the Hoyt Street sidewalk project.

1st Selectman Campbell said he will ask Jenny Schwartz of the Darien Housing Authority to speak about affordable housing at Edgerton.

Ms. Stevenson requested an update on the Police Department project, the Weed Beach project, Housing Authority, and Allen O'Neill.

APPOINTMENTS/RE-APPOINTMENTS

Consider and take action on the following re-appointments:

- a) Marian Castell as the Town Historian for a 2-year term beginning on April 1, 2011 and expiring on March 31, 2013.
- b) Robert Riith to the Sewer Commission for a 3-year term beginning on January 1, 2010 and expiring on December 31, 2012.
- c) Holly Hawes to the Social Services Commission for a 3-year term beginning on December 1, 2009 and expiring on November 30, 2012.
- d) Nancy Herling to the Social Services Commission for a 3-year term beginning on December 1, 2010 and expiring on November 30, 2013.
- e) John Schlachtenhaufen to the Beautification Commission for a 3-year term beginning on December 1, 2010 and expiring on November 30, 2013.
- f) Marianne Gutierrez to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a 3-year term beginning on April 1, 2011 and expiring on March 31, 2014.

**** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MARIAN CASTELL AS TOWN HISTORIAN FOR A 2-YEAR TERM; ROBERT RIITH TO THE SEWER COMMISSION FOR A 3-YEAR TERM; HOLLY HAWES TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION FOR A 3-YEAR TERM; NANCY HERLING TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION FOR A 3-YEAR TERM; JOHN SCHLACHTENHAUFEN TO THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION FOR A 3-YEAR TERM; AND MARIANNE GUTIERREZ TO THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION FOR A 3-YEAR TERM.**

**** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Consider and take action on the following appointment:

- a) Ericka Morris to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a 3-year term beginning on April 1, 2009 and expiring on March 31, 2012.

**** MS. STEVENSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF ERICKA MORRIS TO THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION FOR A 3-YEAR TERM.**

**** MR. BAYNE SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Regular Meeting of April 11, 2011

The changes to the regular meeting of April 11, 2011 are as follows:

On page 2, the entire 3rd paragraph should read as follows:

“Members of Westport’s RTM reported that Westport, CT passed the ordinance 2 ½ years ago with no major compliance issues at no cost to the town. Two separate surveys show that more than 50% of shoppers use reusable bags after one year. The benefit to consumers/merchants includes Whole Foods offering a 10 cent rebate per bag and Stop & Shop offering a 5 cent rebate per bag, and a reduction in merchant costs per bag due to increased use of re-usable bags.”

On page 2, add the following as the last bullet point:

“Also making statements in support of a ban on plastic shopping bags were: Rhonda Sherwood, Board member of the Mount Sinai Children’s Environmental Center; Connie Melvin, Darien Environmental Group; Lynn Hamlin, Executive Director of the Darien Nature Center; Carol Wilder-Tamme, Darien Chamber of Commerce; Tory Holt, Darien resident and teacher; students from the Darien High School Advanced Placement Environmental Science class, and Meighan Grady, a student at Greens Farms Academy, who resides in Darien. Their statements addressed a broad range of issues including information about new research into the health consequences of long term exposure to plastic in the environment (Ms. Sherwood); the results of polling of Darien merchants on a proposed plastic shopping bag ban (DHS APES students), the negative consequences of plastic bags on aquatic life (Ms. Grady); and the negative impact plastic bags have on Darien’s own waterways, including Long Island Sound, and on the natural beauty of Darien (Ms. Hamlin and Ms. Melvin).”

On page 2, under FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT, 1st paragraph, the 7th sentence should read: “There is no real way to know the true unemployment number in Darien because persons formerly employed in NY & NJ don’t appear in CT numbers, but he said that it is currently at 6.2% for Darien.

On page 2, under FIRST SELECTMAN’S REPORT, 2nd paragraph, 1st sentence, change “Hoy Street” to “Hoyt Street”.

On page 2, under FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT, 2nd paragraph, the 2nd sentence should read: "The Board of Finance didn't cut the project, but rather will fund the project out of Contingency when they get the estimate for the survey and engineering work from the Board of Selectmen."

On page 3, 1st paragraph, 2nd sentence, add "lease" to the end of the sentence.

On page 3, under NEW BUSINESS, a) Discuss Possible Tree Commission Ordinance, 1st sentence and last sentence, change "KRMA" to "CIRMA".

- ** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2011 AS AMENDED.**
- ** MS. STEVENSON SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED WITH THREE (3) VOTES IN FAVOR (BAYNE, CAMPBELL, STEVENSON) AND ONE (1) VOTE ABSTAINED (NIELSEN).**

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

April 26, 2011	Planning & Zoning Commission Public Hearing at 8:00 p.m.
April 26, 2011	Board of Education Regular Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
May 2, 2011	Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting at 7:45 p.m.
May 9, 2011	RTM Meeting on the Town Budget at 8:00 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

(Any items added to the agenda require a two-thirds vote)

ADJOURNMENT

- ** MR. BAYNE MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marr
Telesco Secretarial Services