

DARIEN REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

MINUTES - JUNE 21, 2012

Members Present: Carolyn Schoonmaker (Chair), Jim Cameron, Nina Miller, Sue Maguire, Gary Swenson, Mac Patrick, Noelle Henderson, Cassandra Hegarty, Susan Lehan.

Observers: Victoria Holdt, Deepika Saksena, Linda Goodyear

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 pm in room 119. The Minutes of May 9, 2012 were approved.

- 1) Chair Schoonmaker announced that PH&S member Mr. Patrick had been appointed to the town's Advisory Board of Health.

- 2) There was an update on neighbors' calls for sidewalks on Hoyt St in the vicinity of the Talmadge Hill rail station. Ms. Miller said she had surveyed the area and thought there might be 50 homes in the one mile area. Ms. Hegarty, an area resident, said approx 75 households are within walking distance and 40 people are commuters. She said despite greater Police enforcement and signage it is still unsafe to walk to the train station. She said that CDOT estimates of a \$1 million price tag to install sidewalks seemed high. Mr. Cameron suggested that neighbors create a "taxing district" and pay for the improvements themselves as they will most benefit.

The issue is expected to come before the Board of Selectmen July 9th and Chair Schoonmaker indicated she would attend and speak for the need for continued investment in sidewalks town-wide, built following objective priorities of need and potential benefits to the most residents.

- 3) The "Chose to Reuse" plastic bag ordinance is expected to come before the full RTM in September. Ms. Miller, a proponent, read aloud the latest draft of the ordinance. Mr. Patrick said there was concern expressed at the [June 5th Advisory Board of Health meeting](#) about that body being appointed enforcement officer. Ms. Miller said, if legal, she'd volunteer to be enforcement official. There was extensive discussion of the types of bags singled out for the ban. The ordinance will come before TGS&A on 6/25, the Rules Comm. on 8/20 and the full RTM 9/24. PH&S will be the secondary committee studying the proposal.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM CAMERON

Acting Secretary