

Minutes from the RTM Public Work Committee – January 22, 2014

In Attendance: Frank Adelman, Mark Adiletta, Patti Bumgardner, Jim Cameron, Jay Hardison, Katie Keith, Nina Miller, Dick Poli, Holly Schultz, Allison Stolar, David Young (alphabetical order)

Absent: Ellyn Coyne, Thomas Moore

Meeting was called to order at 8:08 pm.

First order of Business: Jim Cameron's resignation as Chair and Mark Adiletta's acceptance as Chair. Allison nominates, Frank seconds. Vote is Unanimous.

Second order of business: Brief introductions of members.

Third order of business: Committee Assignments:

These are sub committees where members choose to participate in one or two, do some in depth research into proposed projects and report back to the PW Committee.

Curbside leaf/tree pick up: Jim Cameron and Katie Keith. Rules Committee requested we create a committee to determine the feasibility, cost and timetable for a leaf pick up program in Darien. There was a brief discussion into necessity of a leaf pickup plan, how it works in New Canaan and Stamford and alternatives such as leaving leaves on lawn, slightly mulched and using leaves as a compost starter in the corner of one's yard. Dangers considered...Kids playing on piles of leaves while curbside (Jay Hardison); Leaves get wet and are a soggy mess to suction; Cost including price of purchase of trucks, labor, and the possibility of contracting out the job. Jim would like to have either Bob Steeger or Darren Oustafine come talk with us about the idea.

Budget/Capital Projects: Mark Adiletta.

Darien Recycling Center/Swap Shop Center: Allison Stolar and Nina Miller. Recent concerns focus on the parking at the swap shop and accumulation of recyclable containers people use to bring their swap items in being just tossed into the garbage up above. Note: Excellent video Allison sent to us recently of kids in Guatamala, notably abused and abandoned girls, enjoying toys and sruffed animals we have sent there that were not "swapped out" from the shop.

Sewer Commission: Frank Adelman

Flooding/Storm Drain Maintenance: Richard Poli, Jay Hardison and Patti Bumgardner Examine and report on the two projects in the Capital budget

Pedestrian Safety/Sidewalk Maintenance: Holly Schultz, David Young, Nina Miller. Holly wants to know where does pedestrian safety fall, to Public Works or to Public Health and Safety Committee? Mark said he would give a call to Rules Committee Chair to request that Public Works be the lead committee for due diligence.

Other:

Holly has said that it is necessary to find out what the Noise Ordinance policy is for Darien. Item will be taken up at a future meeting. Concerns are about haulers (and their ...delete) picking up of trash at very early hours. Jay (has ...delete) said he hears them at Hindley School at 2:30 AM on the weekends and Nina has heard them at 3:30 AM at the medical building on the Post Rd. across from the library. Make sure to differentiate between Commercial and Residential pick up times as they may differ. Lloyd Plehaty (TGS&A) and Mac Patrick (PH&S) should be consulted about the issue of a noise ordinance to get background info as the noise ordinance was discussed at length a few years ago. Patti will follow up and report back at the next meeting.

Mark told us about the BOS Budget Review Meetings on Channel 79 this Saturday, January 25th, beginning at 9 AM where the chair of each town department will make a short presentation about where they are with past operations and what they hope to accomplish in the coming year. Could last up to 4 hours. Will air live and be recorded to be seen at a later date.

Possible agenda items or updates for the future meeting on Feb 17, 2014:

Leaf pick-up program information - Cameron/Keith
Pedestrian Safety - Schulz/Young/Miller
DRC update - Stolar/Miller/Keith
Capital Budget Items (2 flooding projects) - Poli/Hardison/Bumgardner
Solid Waste Ordinance (Chapter 62) - Adiletta
Noise Ordinance update - Bumgardner

Meeting Adjourned at 8:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nina Miller and Patti Bumgardner
January 22, 2014