

MINUTES
OPERATIONS PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
September 19, 2013

First Selectman Jayme Stevenson called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m. in Room 202 of Town Hall.

Present were First Selectman, Jayme Stevenson; Board of Education Chairperson, Betsy Hagerty-Ross; RTM Moderator, Sarah Seelye; Planning & Zoning Chairman, Joe Spain; State Representative, Terrie Wood and Town Administrator, Karl Kilduff.

Planning and Zoning

Mr. Spain stated that the Planning & Zoning Department has seen a significant surge in applications since August 1, 2013. Many of these applications require the review and approval of the Planning & Zoning Commission. The Commission has been meeting once a week to keep up with the applications and it expects to continue meeting weekly through October.

The Stefanoni's supplemental application for a development on Hoyt Street has been considered during the course of several Public Hearings. It is now in the hands of the Planning & Zoning Commission to decide on the proposed 16 unit housing development.

Board of Education

Mrs. Hagerty-Ross mentioned that there was a need to establish two additional elementary school classrooms but basically the start of school ran smoothly.

The Darien Athletic Foundation (DAF) donated a new scoreboard to the Board of Education which will be dedicated in two ceremonies this weekend. Additionally, the DAF is going through the process, including planning a public hearing, for donating a new concession stand to the DHS. Finally, the DAF is looking to donate three turf fields to DHS. The acceptance of turf fields would generate additional use of the fields and this initiated a conversation about parking and traffic at the high school. Mrs. Stevenson requested that a comprehensive traffic study be done to understand not only how the planned outdoor activities impact traffic and parking, but also all of the indoor activities including such things as: clubs, open houses, concerts and plays that often go on at overlapping times. She also suggested that the BOE consider establishing a traffic/parking coordinator.

Christopher Manfredonia has been named the new Athletic Director for Darien schools. Mrs. Hagerty-Ross commented that Mr. Manfredonia will be initiating new programs such as a Captains' Council and the Board looks forward to working with him.

State Representative

Mrs. Terrie Wood recently met with the Commissioner of Housing, Evonne Klein, the Director of Strategic Initiatives, Katie Durand and State Representatives Jonathan Steinberg and Kim Fawcett to discuss proposed amendments to 8-30g. Tuesday, September 24th the Speaker of the House, Brendan Sharkey will participate an 8-30g meeting.

RTM Moderator

Mrs. Seelye stated that the RTM meets on Monday, September 23, 2013. Agenda items that the RTM will address include the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and a \$250,000 loan for the Allen O'Neill development.

First Selectman

Mrs. Stevenson updated the group on proposed regionalism boundaries. She noted that new DOT boundaries are also in the works. Mrs. Stevenson would like a parking analysis for the Town and Mr. Spain said he would welcome a new parking study.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 17, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 206.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda O'Leary
Recording Secretary