



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
Fairfield Hills Authority
MINUTES

The Fairfield Hills Authority held a Special Meeting on April 24, 2017 in Council Chambers at the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown CT 06470

These minutes are subject to the approval of the FHA at their next meeting.

Present: Ross Carley, Phil Clark, Andrew Willie, Renata Adler, Roger Cyr, Terry Sagedy

Also Present: Pat Llodra, Amy Mangold, Carl Samuelson, Christal Preszler, George Benson

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm

Minutes:

Mr. Carley asked for a motion to accept the minutes of February 27, 2017. Mr. Willie entertained. Mr. Clark seconded and all were in favor.

Selectman's Report:

Ms. Llodra talked to the Commission about their relationship with town departments. She had specific concerns about communication and open planning between groups. Mr. Carley explained that he would like to have a game plan with Parks and Rec, Public Works, Zoning and the FHA. The budget is ever-changing and many commissioners are not up to date with old information. Mr. Carley's hopes are to get everyone on the same page and to work as a unified front.

The Charter and Ordinance were brought into discussion, regarding a need to update the duties of the FHA. Mr. Clark asked what the real charge of the FHA is. Ms. Llodra explained the past need for the FHA was to write leases and discuss development. Mr. Benson said that the original idea was to build up the campus, but did not take long to see that it would not happen easily.

The activity on Fairfield Hills (FFH) has changed to preserving, remediating, or demolishing buildings to make open areas for recreation or encourage new businesses to populate the campus. The cost, however makes choices difficult. CIP drafts begin in August, and Ms. Llodra encouraged the FHA chair to make his case for funding and to also come with a backup plan.

After hearing input from Ms. Mangold and Mr. Samuelson of Parks and Rec, the groups wanted to devise a plan to work more efficiently together. Mr. Carley made a motion to create a subcommittee possibly consisting of 2 FHA members, 2 Parks and Rec members, 2 Planning and Zoning members, and Land Use employees to meet and discuss wants/needs on campus. Mr. Clark seconded. All members were in favor. Mr. Cyr and Mr. Sagedy offered to be on this committee.

Mr. Samuelson mentioned there are 10-14 trees that have been put aside for installation at FFH. Ms. Llodra asked if the trees fit the planting plan for FFH. Members of the Authority mentioned that they had never seen the Planting Plan before. Mr. Carley said that the planting plan will be emailed to members, and as long as they were ok with the trees being installed, he would like to move forward with planting. Members agreed.

Chairman's Report:

Mr. Carley revisited the Kiosk proposal from hopeful Eagle Scout, Thomas Tavar. The Commissioners all agreed that the location near Glander fields was best. Mr. Sagedy offered to work with the scout regarding the signage after some content concerns were raised. Ms. Preszler said she didn't want to hold up the project for signage. She thought it could be done in another phase. Ms. Adler had some questions about the design and proportion. Mr. Clark said he would work with the scout to finalize the design. The Authority asked Ms. Llodra what the next step is for the Scout. She said he would not have to present to the Board of Selectmen, and she would leave the decision in the hands of the FHA.

Staff Update:

Ms. Preszler told the Authority about the next events at Fairfield Hills which includes the Rooster Run, Butterfly Party (Catherine Violet Hubbard Foundation) and the Food Truck Festival. The Board of Realtors has an opportunity to apply for some grant funding which could allow a 'phase two' of Tammy's Garden. Ms. Preszler will be applying to the DECD regarding grant funding to partially remediate another Duplex for REACH. There is a meeting to revisit building an ice skating rink at FFH this week.

Ms. Llodra invited Mr. Carley to the Board of Selectmen Special meeting on Wednesday April 26, to speak on behalf of FHA regarding the Community Center. The meeting will be at 7:00pm at the Town Hall South, 3 Main Street.

Adjournment: With no further business, Mr. Sagedy made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Willie seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

*Respectfully submitted,
Georgia Contois, Clerk.*