



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
Fairfield Hills Authority
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The Fairfield Hills Authority held a Meeting on May 26, 2020

This meeting was held remotely due to COVID-19 mandates and precautions.

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

Present: Ross Carley, Renata Adler, Walt Motyka, Michael Holmes, Brook Clark, Terry Sagedy, Andrew Philbin, Melissa Beylouni

Absent: none

Public Attendance: none

Also Present: Christal Preszler, Kim Chiappetta (clerk)

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Public Participation: None

Acceptance of Minutes:

Chairman Carley asked for a motion to accept the minutes of January 27, 2020. Mike Holmes entertained.

Walt Motyka seconded and all were in favor.

Chairman's Report:

Bike & Trail Committee proposal:

Chairman Ross Carley began the meeting by reminding members of the Bike and Trail Committee's presentation in the January 27th FHA meeting where part of the proposal was to close off the cul-de-sac on Keating Farms Rd to provide an area for children's to ride bikes safely. Mike Holmes expressed that he was opposed to closing the road explaining that there are many people who use it to access the trail. This area is also used for special events. Walt Motyka proposed that the road be shared by adding a bike lane. Andrew Philbin questioned if the bike lane was even necessary as children could ride on the sidewalk. Christal Preszler pointed out that there is a trail around the campus that is already used by people riding bikes. Terry Sagedy added that many sections of the trail are accessible from various parking lots. Melissa Beylouni agreed that the road should not be blocked off. Ross explained that he was not opposed to closing the cul-de-sac for special events. Brook agreed that she did not see a reason why this location would need to be for bikes only, and added that if the area is no longer designated as a road it may be difficult to have it re-designated a town road again if needs change.

Chairman Ross Carley asked for a motion to pen a letter to the Board of Selectmen voicing the opinion of the Fairfield Hill Authority that they do not recommend the Keating Farms Road cul-de-sac be permanently closed.

Mike Holmes motioned to do so. Renata Adler seconded and all were in favor.

Member Updates:

None.

Staff Update:

Events:

Kim Chiappetta told Authority members that all events are on hold with the exception of the Farmers Market.

Securing Buildings:

Ross told members that the Board of Selectmen passed \$49,000 for securing empty campus buildings. (See 5/18 BOS minutes.) Christal reminded members about initial discussions to secure the buildings and that a specialized group must be hired for this type of work. The company AAIS, who specializes in working in abatement of contaminants (asbestos, PCBs, lead, mold) and is on the State BID list, was contacted for a quote. Work will include fencing around empty buildings, securing of basement and first floor windows and notices to remain away from the buildings.

NewSylum Brewery:

Members expressed their excitement that the NewSylum Brewery is now selling canned beer and how they look forward to them opening their patio in the near future.

Plantings:

Christal told members that a new cherry tree is being planted at the campus entrance to replace a tree that had to be removed. Also, Amy Mangold and family have donated a ginkgo tree that has been planted.

Adjournment: With no further business, Walt motioned to adjourn, Andrew seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Kimberly Chiappetta, Clerk.