

NORWALK ASSOCIATION OF SILVERMINE HOMEOWNERS

Monday, January 21, 2013

117 Perry Ave.

7:30 pm

Board Members in attendance: Heather Dunn, Leigh Grant, Ken James, Lee Levey, Alex Modica, Leigh Finley, Sue Palinkos. **Absent:** Linda Lee, Christine Names, Eric Nelson, Chip Brown. Leigh Grant chaired the meeting due to the absence of president, vice-president and treasurer. Thank you to Heather for providing a venue.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

Minutes: Approved with changes in attendance for Ken and Sue who were present.

Nature Habitat: Jane Dedona was not able to attend due to matters related to Sandy Hook, an area where she has previously done work and has friends. She will send a proposal in a week or so.

501(c)3: No change. Will work out filing with Eric Nelson.

Historic Preservation: No report.

Membership Drive: Discussion of sending out the letters and holding a community meeting. Suggested date for April.

Community Relations: Mayor's meeting focused on school safety.

Council Activities: A Democratic representative for Silvermine is now caucusing with the Republicans. Discussion ensued.

New Business: Silvermine Tavern: The CT Council of Culture and Tourism awarded a \$20,000 grant to the proposed Artists' Habitat. The funds are dedicated to hiring an architect and developing plans.

Beekeeper Update: The national organization recommends two hives per quarter acre. Not relevant on Silvermine as current situation is grandfathered in. South Norwalk: note that a Redniss & Mead zoning study on housing within a mile of the train station is taking place. (Foreclosures in South Norwalk are running three times what they are in the rest of Norwalk.) New Businesses: BJ's is coming into Main Ave. and will likely have a negative impact on traffic coming from Broad St. and Perry Ave. A Loews will be built in the area near Norwalk Hospital. Norwalk Preservation Trust: The hospital is not interested in discussing the former YMCA building. NPT considers it to be a poor interpretation of colonial revival architecture. NPT would like to preserve the accompanying Victorian house. Merritt Parkway: trees are being cut back 30' due to ASHTO standards for cars traveling 73 miles an hour. (30' is allowed for regaining control of a car that has exited the roadway at 70 mph.) This is at the order of Governor Malloy. The 55 mph speed limit cannot be enforced with only two state troopers patrolling the roadway and the troopers feel that CT would not want speed cameras (that are used in other states and in Europe). The Merritt Parkway Conservancy supports safety but would like to see low plantings introduced where trees have been removed. DOT has no budget for replanting and has asked the MPC for support. The MPC feels that the cutting has removed so much of the landscape buffer that the proposed multi-use trail will be opposed while re-landscaping the cut areas will be actively pursued.

Old Business: None was discussed.

Respectfully submitted,
Leigh Grant, Secretary