

NORWALK ASSOCIATION OF SILVERMINE HOMEOWNERS

Monday, April 23, 2012

223 Silvermine Ave.

7:30 pm

Board Members in attendance: Leigh Finley, Leigh Grant, Linda Lee, Lee Levey, Christine Names, Eric Nelson, Sue Palinkos. **Absent:** John Kahler, Alex Modica, Heather Dunn. **New Board Members:** Chip Brown, Ken James.

Treasurer's Report: Current funds: \$21,150. Donation made to Norwalk Tree Alliance of \$500. An estimated budget for the house tour was requested.

Minutes: Approved with one change to "in addition to" instead of "vs." under Communications.

Communications: My Domains is where the NASH website is registered. It has been renewed through 2016. Go Daddy is the hosting service. On the NASH news, the most opened was the Wilton Garden Club sale.

Membership: The letter is ready to go.

Community Relations:

CNNA: Last month Matt Miklave came and talked about the Fire Department and Common Council. Discussion focused on the Redevelopment Agency and how it functions in Norwalk: closed door discussions, etc. For instance the Norwalk Company building demolition in SoNo was already a "done deal". Redevelopment had a \$500,000.00 grant to clean it up. There are certain factors that might mean it goes to court.

Mayor's Meeting: Zoning complaint form was discussed. It was felt the educational approach was the best direction for NASH to take on this issue.

Norwalk Tree Festival: Takes place on May 19th from 11-3. Discussion of educational offerings including Asian long horn beetle (which can be managed with pesticides) and emerald ash borer (that causes serious damage, canopy of tree begins to thin in three years). Additionally, there will be door prizes.

Historic District Update: No report.

Comstock Hill Nature Habitat: The shoulder was cleaned up by Peter Viteretto, Builders without Border (2 men), one student, Leigh Grant and Christine Names. Only one side of the chain was open. The other end was soldered. Liability insurance is important to going forward but additional cutting, chipping can be done by insured landscapers. Three quotes were suggested. \$3500. for cleanup was approved with one negative vote from Eric Nelson. To move to the next level, a competitive bidding process was suggested and it was agreed to have a scope of work put together by candidates for the design of the park.

House Tour: Leigh Finley reported on the upcoming house tour. The houses are chosen, dates, and advertising copy is needed to drive ad sales. Same sequence of events: meeting is planned with homeowners and committee. All thank you letters have been drafted.

501(c)3: IRS wants paperwork for 2011 bookkeeping.

New Business: 1.) Silvermine Tavern change: as long as the primary property is three acres, one property may be sold off. 2.) Merritt Parkway Bridge: all the cherry trees will be cut down by the Silvermine Ave. bridge. DOT is saying they have found structural deficiencies in the bridge. 3). Norwalk Museum will close on July 1st. Respectfully submitted, Leigh Grant, Secretary