

Board of Selectmen's Meeting (Special)

MINUTES : Approved 8/20/15

Thursday, July 30th, 2015, 7:30pm

Town Hall Meeting Room

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein, Selectman David Muller, Town Administrator Tom Landry, Planning & Zoning Chairman Tom Failla, Administrative Assistant Randi Derene, Library Director Karen Tatarka, Library Board Chairman Amy Sanborn, Weston Residents

Selectman Dennis Tracey was not present.

This meeting was recorded and videotaped. Copies are available in the Selectmen's office. The meetings are available for viewing online via the Town's website.

Ms. Weinstein called the meeting to order at: 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Ms. Weinstein led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Allison Lisbon to the Children & Youth Commission for a term to end July 30th, 2018. Ms. Lisbon has lived in Weston for 5 years and is a licensed social worker. She currently works for Caring Hospice as well as St. Francis preschool as a social worker consultant. Ms. Weinstein felt that her background would be outstanding for this commission. Mr. Muller moved to appoint Allison Lisbon to the Children & Youth Commission for a term to end July 30th, 2018. Ms. Weinstein seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion/decision to accept the resignation of Nina Daniel from the Board of Education effective August 31, 2015. Mr. Muller moved to accept the resignation of Nina Daniel from the Board of Education effective August 31, 2015. Ms. Weinstein seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Dan McNeill to fill the upcoming Board of Education vacancy left by Nina Daniel for a term to start August 31, 2015 and end November 3, 2015. Mr. McNeill was nominated by the RTC to fill the vacancy left by Ms. Daniel. Mr. McNeill has been a resident of Weston since 2006. He was a teacher and served on many committees. He left teaching to spend more time with his family. He also runs his own business. Mr. McNeill is also the incoming PTO president of WIS. Ms. Weinstein asked if that would be a conflict. Mr. McNeill said it is his understanding that it would be a conflict if he sits on the BOE, so he plans to resign as president. Mr. Muller moved to appoint Dan McNeill to fill the upcoming Board of Education vacancy left by Nina Daniel for a term to start August 31, 2015 and end November 3, 2015. Ms. Weinstein seconded. Motion carried.

Interviews for the Strategic Planning Committee: Jonathan Moffly, Denny Brooks, Charlie Shipman, Leona Peiffer, Mary Francois, Ilene Richardson, Alisa Waterman, Dana Repka and James Joyce.

Planning and Zoning Chairman, Mr. Tom Failla sat in on the interviews as P&Z Vice Chair.

Jonathan Moffly (interview conducted via telephone): Mr. Moffly publishes magazines in the area which keeps him very involved in neighboring communities as well as Weston. Mr. Moffly also has sat on the board of the Westport/Weston Chamber of Commerce as well as the Fairfield

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County's Community Foundation. His goals while sitting on these boards were to make this community a better place for businesses to thrive and provide a good economic environment. Mr. Moffly has a good understanding of home businesses and helping them with connections and resources.

Denny Brooks: Mr. Brooks is a Commercial Scientist. He loves the school system here in Weston. He brings experience such as statistical evaluation, data analysis and consumer testing (developing products that consumers want). He also sat on the Charter Revision Committee and learned about the Town and its politics.

Charlie Shipman: New to town, moved here 16 months ago. Mr. Shipman is a financial planner and his target market is Generation X and Millennial clients. He also volunteers in many other organizations in town. Ms. Weinstein explains that a large part of the "Crafting a Strategic Plan" report is centered on the fact that we need to know what Gen X and the Millennials are thinking and what are they looking for when picking a town to move to. She felt that Mr. Shipman had a good handle on these specific generations.

Leona Pieffer: Ms. Pieffer has lived here since 2007 and has two boys in WIS. She is a small business owner, running three franchises of College Nannies, Sitters and Tutors. The bulk of her employees are Millennials and Gen X'ers. She has good insight into how they think. This would be the first time she has stepped up to be involved in a town committee. She likes the idea of having a say as to where this town goes in the future. Ms. Pieffer is aware the needs and desires of these two generations are very different from ours.

Mary Francois: Ms. Francois is new to town, moving here from Nashville, TN. She has a student at Hurlbutt and a preschooler. Ms. Francois said that the city of Nashville went through a similar process and she found it a great learning experience to be part of that. She is a strong people person. Ms. Francois was drawn to Weston because of the schools, the slower pace, and a safe environment. Weston wasn't on their radar except for the fact she has a cousin that lives here in town. She states that Weston is not very visible when you are shopping for a house online. Ms. Francois has a great amount of home buying experience so she brings good real estate insight.

Ilene Richardson: Ms. Richardson has lived in Weston for 4 years and has two children in the school system. She works for an ad agency and frequently works with Millennials. She also has a background in political science and urban planning. Ms. Richardson wants to help by being a positive contributor to help the town grow. She has interest in home businesses and helping them thrive in town. This would be the first time Ms. Richardson has been involved in a town committee or commission.

Alisa Waterman: Ms. Waterman is a scientist/researcher. She brings experience in developing strategies, team building as well as working with goals and timelines. She has lived in Weston for 15 years and has a son who went through the school system.

Dana Repka: Ms. Repka has lived here for 8 years. She worked as an elementary teacher and now she is a stay at home mom. She is a Millennial and wants more Millennials to move here. She lived in New Jersey and knew nothing about Connecticut. They were told about Weston by a co-

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worker after finding that other towns such as Westport, New Canaan and Darien just wasn't for them. Living close to train line was very important to consider when picking what part of Weston they could live in. Ms. Repka wants the schools to thrive and wants to avoid a dwindling enrollment. She loves the schools and the space that Weston offers as well as all the outdoor activities such as the hiking trails.

James Joyce: Mr. Joyce represents the younger generation and is a student at Weston High School. He moved here when he was in 4th grade. He was president of his class last year, is on the Mock Trial team, plays two sports and also interns on the Republican Town Committee. Mr. Joyce greatest concern is regarding declining enrollment. He can offer a fresh perspective, an open mind and can tell us firsthand about the concerns and interests of students in town. Ms. Weinstein asked Mr. Joyce if he feels that kids are saying there is nothing for them to do. He says it definitely is and would be something he would like the committee to address. Ms. Britta Lerner, Chairman of the RTC, added that Mr. Joyce is dedicated and would be a great asset to the committee. Ms. Weinstein also asks Mr. Joyce if he feels he has the time to commit to this project and he replied that he would.

Ms. Weinstein stated that we will continue the interview process at our August 20th meeting and will be hopefully making a decision at the September 3rd meeting.

Discussion/decision regarding authorizing the First Selectman to execute a contract with the architectural firm of Peter Gisolfi Associates related to design and architectural services for the Library Renovation Project: Amy Sanborn and Karen Tatarka

Ms. Tatarka said they are at the point where they have completed the schematic design and are now in the contract phase. She also announced that they have received \$256,000 in grant funding from the State Bond Commission. Ms. Sanborn thanked our State Legislators, Gayle Weinstein, Tom Landry, Pat Sullivan and Richard Wolfe for all being instrumental in moving this project along. She also thanked Karen Tatarka for everything she has done to get them where they are today. Mr. Muller moved to authorize the First Selectman to execute a contract with the architectural firm of Peter Gisolfi Associates related to design and architectural services for the Library Renovation Project. Ms. Weinstein seconded. Motion carried.

Discussion/decision regarding review of redraft of Town Personnel Policies and Practices Handbook. Ms. Weinstein decided to push this out to our next meeting on August 20th since Mr. Tracey is not in attendance. She thanked Mr. Landry for all his hard work on this.

Open Item: First Selectman's Update

-Ms. Weinstein reported again the great news of the Library Grant. This was a tremendous accomplishment to receive this grant money.

-The Godfrey Road Bridge Ribbon Cutting date will be rescheduled due to tonight's storms.

Discussion/decision regarding approval of minutes from the June 30th, 2015 Board of Selectman's meeting. Mr. Muller moved to approve the minutes from the June 30th, 2015 Board of Selectman's meeting. Ms. Weinstein seconded. Motion carried.

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Executive Session – DPW Union Negotiation Ms. Weinstein moved to go into Executive Session. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried.

Open Session adjourned: 8:29pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Randi Derene
Administrative Assistant

Board of Selectmen
Executive Session Meeting Minutes
July 30, 2015

ATTENDANCE: The meeting was convened at 8:33pm in the First Selectman's Office by Chairman Weinstein, with Selectman Muller present. Also attending was Town Administrator Landry.

DISCUSSION: The Board discussed the upcoming mediation session with the AFSCME Highway unit. No votes were taken.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:47 pm, a motion (DM, GW second) to adjourn executive session and resume in open session passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: At 8:48pm a motion to adjourn the meeting (DM motion, GW second) passed by unanimous vote.

Submitted by, Tom Landry