

The Fairfield Hills Authority held a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at the Cyrenius Booth Library, 25 Main Street, Newtown, CT 06470. Mike Holmes called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**These Minutes are subject to the approval of the Fairfield Hills Authority.**

**Present:** Jim Bernardi, Mike Holmes, Andy Willie, Brian White, Renata Adler, John Madzula, Ross Carley and Tom Connors.

**Absent:** None.

**Also Present:** Maria DeMarco (DeMarco Management) 7 members of the public and one member of the press.

**Public Participation:** Kristin Chiriatti - Everwonder Children's Museum – 501C3 Non-Profit Organization – Interactive Museum for up to 12 years old. Consider Fairfield Hills the ideal location. Would like to use Plymouth Hall and are looking at a timeline of 3 years to raise funding for this project. They need a 16,000 square foot space. Ross Carley informed her that she will need to do a presentation of the plan and send a Letter of Intent to the town and the Fairfield Hills Authority. Renata Adler voiced her concern about possible conflicts of interest if Claris Construction is the architect for this project along with Woodbury Hall. Ms. Chiriatti explained that Claris Construction was donating their services free of charge and that savings helps with the feasibility of bringing this project to fruition. Chairman Bernardi stated that this was a building worth having on the campus and wished Ms. Chiriatti well.

Nancy Roznicki – 169 Hanover Road - would like to see a Memory Garden as a tribute to how far we've come in treating people with mental illness. Ross Carley suggested that a plan be presented to the Authority for consideration.

Alex Taylor – Boy Scout Troop 70 – introduced plans for his Eagle Scout Project – a compost bin for the Victory Garden. He assured the Authority that he helped build the Information kiosk done by another Eagle Scout so the materials used will be consistent.

**Motion:** Jim Bernardi made a motion to move forward with the Eagle Scout Compost Bin Project subject to the supervision of the property manager. Brian White seconded the motion. All in attendance voted in favor of the motion.

Bruce Herring – Newtown Volunteer Ambulance Association: Mr. Herring gave a quick update to the Authority about the newly planned placement of the foundation for the new ambulance building on the Fairfield Hills Campus – slightly to the left. Maria DeMarco, DeMarco Management/Campus property manager suggested that the Ambulance Association have their architect set up a schedule of all the steps that need to be completed in order to get this project completed. Mr. Herring agreed that this would be a helpful.

**Acceptance of the Minutes:** Jim Bernardi made a motion to accept the minutes from the March 21 and April 18, 2012 Authority meetings. Brian White seconded the motion. All in attendance voted to accept the motion.

**First Selectman:** The First Selectman was unable to attend do to a scheduling conflict due to budget issues.

**Property Management:** Maria DeMarco, gave a quick update of the liaison meeting will provide a dollar amount that is available for encumbrances.

Included in these expenditures are repairs to the Police Sub-station – a quote of \$70,000.was given but most of that cost would be for re-wiring the building. The Authority will decide what types of repairs will be covered out of the budget.

There will be funds available to do some fencing and/or repairs to the buildings around the campus. Funds will be encumbered to cover the cost. These expenditures will be in conjunction with the First Selectman's infrastructure plans for the campus. Some temporary fencing that is already owned by the Town is slated for re-use around Canaan and Plymouth Hall.

Ms. DeMarco suggested that the Department of Public Works and the Fire Department could possibly knock down loose materials off the buildings on the campus.

**Chairman:** Chairman Bernardi gave an update to the Woodbury Hall Project.

Renata Adler again voiced her concerns about the Town Attorney having a conflict of interest because he listed as a principal of the potential developer of the Woodbury Hall project. Ms. Adler wants confirmation that there are not ethical or legal issues with the town and the developer.

Tom Connors asked if an Authority member is uncertain of aspects of a project what steps should that person take to have their opinion noted on record.

Jim Bernardi stated that he did believe that the town attorney has performed his job ethically and that he did not think there was a conflict. Mr. Bernardi stated that he would contact Mr. Grogins and would request that he attend an Authority meeting or planning meeting to address these concerns. Mr. Bernardi stated that he did not want anyone on the Authority to be uncomfortable with any aspects of this project and wanted to make sure that all involved feel positive about moving forward with the project.

Jim Bernardi stated that the Property Managers services will be ending in the month of June and he said that someone has to keep track of the funds when she is gone. Brian White stated that he will oversee the funds for the 2012/2013 budget.

Mr. Bernardi changed the discussion to address the date for the June Authority meeting. Several people will have conflicts with the scheduled date of the meeting so it has been suggested that the date be changed to June 13, 2012.

**Motion:** Jim Bernardi made a motion to cancel the June 20, 2012 Fairfield Hills Authority meeting and reschedule it to June 13, 2012. Brian White seconded the motion. All in attendance voted to accept the motion.

Mr. Bernardi stated that when the lease negotiations are underway there will have to be a Special Meeting scheduled to discuss the negotiations.

The discussion then went to funds that are still available for the 2011/2012 budget. There are several area's that the funds could be expended.

**Motion:** Brian White made a motion to use funds for several benches and signage that includes "What's Coming" information, a few trash receptacles and possible dog waste containers. The funds to come out of the repair and maintenance account. John Madzula seconded the motion. All in attendance voted to accept the motion.

**Motion:** Ross Carley made a motion a motion to adjourn. Renata Adler seconded the motion. All in attendance voted to accept the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05.