

Town of Greenwich
Board of Selectmen Meeting
July 21, 2011
10:00 a.m.
Town Hall Meeting Room

Draft Minutes

1. The meeting opened at 10:07 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

- a. Attendance:
 - i. First Selectman Peter J. Tesei – Present
 - ii. Selectman David Theis – Present
 - iii. Selectman Drew Marzullo – Present

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting held on 7-7-2011 were reviewed and approved as corrected without objection

3. First Selectman's Update

- a. Peter Tesei spoke of two recent events in Town that he attended – Bastille Day on July 14 and the Town's Founder's Day celebration on July 18. Peter stated that Founder's Day marked the Town's 371st birthday.
- b. Peter also introduced Robert Walkup, the Mayor of Tucson Arizona. Mayor Walkup was in town to visit with family. Peter mentioned that Mayor Walkup recently proposed and sponsored with the US Conference of Mayors the "Civility Accord". The Civility Accord is a pledge that a municipality makes to conduct its business with the community and citizens in a manner of mutual respect. Peter stated that Greenwich had joined the accord. Mayor Walkup gave a short talk on this initiative.

4. Old Business - None

5. New Business

- a. Community Request

Mary Ann Morrison presented a proposal for a 9/11 Memorial at Grass Island from "Let There Be Light, Inc." She said that while the Great Captain's Island site was wonderful for the existing memorial it lacked from an accessibility standpoint. She said that Let There Be Light, Inc. has been working with Architect Chuck Hilton and Richard Hull to design a memorial and to locate a site on the mainland that would be appropriate. Chuck Hilton then made a short presentation on the ideas that they had developed. Peter Tesei outlined the steps that would need to be followed for such a proposal to reach fruition. He said that the Arts Council – Art in Public Places Committee would review the proposal including possible sites and provide advice to the First Selectman on its acceptance. Peter said that there was a question whether Municipal Improvement status is required but that the gift would require RTM approval since its value was estimated to be \$175,000. Questions were raised with regard to whether Grass Island was the best site. Other suggestions were Greenwich Point or perhaps another Town park. Amy Burke, from the Friends of Greenwich Point spoke. She said her primary goal today was to gather information on the proposal. She

reminded the Board that the mission of the Friends was to keep Greenwich Point in its natural state. Sylvester Pecora from the Friends of Grass Island complemented the design of the proposed memorial but listed a number of deficiencies with the Grass Island site. Coleen Jenkins was concerned that the views of the victims of 9/11 be considered.

The Board then discussed alternative sites for the memorial, the review process that would be required and the time line.

b. Community Development

Princess Erfe presented the recommended CDBG projects for fiscal year 2012. She introduced Alma Rutgers, the Chairman of the Advisory Committee. Ms. Rutgers reviewed the process that the Advisory committee had followed. Ms Rutgers said that the committee consisted of 24 members who reviewed the 38 eligible applications that had been received. She said that they had received requests for \$1.5 million but that our allocation was only \$963 thousand.

c. Public Works

- i. A request was received from the Public Works Department to modify the traffic signal at Route 1 and Weaver Street to include a left turn arrow for southbound traffic. Moved by David Theis, seconded by Drew Marzullo and approved without objection.
- ii. Amy Seibert and John McKee gave the Board and the public a presentation on the change to single stream recycling that is scheduled to occur on August 1st. John McKee spoke at length about the expanded list of materials that will now be eligible for recycling and how that will decrease the amount of trash that will ultimately go to the dump for burning or to a landfill. The financial benefits to the community were also discussed.

6. Appointments and Nominations – None

7. Executive Session

Mr. Theis moved to go into executive session at 12:06 pm to discuss pending litigation and potential property settlements. Seconded by Mr. Marzullo and approved without objections.

The Board returned from executive session at 12:27 a.m. and David Theis moved to approve a settlement of the case of Weinreb vs. Town of Greenwich for a sum of sum of \$\$5,779.74, seconded by Drew Marzullo and approved without objection.

David Theis moved to approve a property value settlement of the case of Berger, et al. vs. Town of Greenwich (280 Railroad Ave.) for a property value of \$11,311,000., seconded by Drew Marzullo and approved without objection.

A motion was made to adjourn at 12:28 p.m.

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Thursday, August 18, 2011 in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 10:00 a.m.