

Farmington Human Relations Commission
Minutes
November 9, 2015

Commission Members Present: Ruth Grobe, Ray Elling, Donna Bernard, Zalman Nakhimovskyy, Jolanta Sliwinski

Town of Farmington: Nancy Parent
Amy Suffredini
Matt Blume
Dan Aparro

State of Connecticut: Mike Demicco

Ruth Grobe called the meeting to order at 6:37pm.

Minutes: *Upon motion duly made by Jolanta Sliwinski and seconded by Donna Bernard, the minutes of August 31, 2015 were accepted as written on a unanimous vote.*

Update from Official Town Bodies

Department of Public Works

Matt Blume provided a brief overview of the sidewalk project for Route 177. As a recap the sidewalks are going to be widened, however, the roadway will not be narrowed. The Commission was able to preview a map of the project and New Horizon residents were able to ask questions and receive clarification.

State Representatvie Update

Mike Demicco answered questions about transportation and discussed State reimbursements.

Town Council

Amy Suffredini reported that the Town Council held three workshops on the Farmington Gateway Project. Since that time the Town Council is committed to the following three initiatives:

1. The Town Council is committed to involving an accessibility expert throughout the planning process.
2. The Town Council will continue to encourage all interested parties to stay involved.
3. The Town Council encouraged Ruth Grobe to meet with Bill Warner for a change in the ordinance from Town Planning and Zoning regarding accessibility standards.

Police Department

The Commission asked the Police Department to provide detail statistics for in town citations. The Commission also asked about what type of reminders would be issued to residents regarding the shoveling of sidewalks to ensure they are accessible to residents. The New Horizon residents had a question regarding the crosswalks in front of Westerleigh and people stopping for pedestrians. They also discussed the use of flags at the crosswalk in front of St. Mary's. Matt Blume was asked if the warning signals were operational. Matt Blume will check to see if they are working properly.

Department of Community & Recreation Services

Nancy Parent updated the Commission on the Community & Recreation Department including the holiday program, fuel bank, fundraising initiatives and JRB. She also provided the Commission with information regarding the success of the Community Chest's Wine Tasting.

CC=A

CC=A held a luncheon at Westerleigh to recruit and expand membership and thanked the Commission members for attending. CC=A is still working with UConn and met with the Dean. CC=A will be holding a legislative breakfast with Cross Disability Lifespan Alliances from 8:30-9:30 on Monday, November 16th. Keith Mullinar and Ray Elling were invited by the Connecticut Council on Safety and Health to stage a workshop on protecting disabled workers.

Dates for the Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on November 9th at 6:30 at the Farmington Community and Senior Center.

Upon motion duly made by Zalman Nakhimovsky and seconded by Yolanta Sliwinski the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Parent, Secretary