



Meeting Date: 5/18/2017, 12:30 pm  
Location: Mayor's Conference Room, 10th Floor

In Attendance: F. Mercede, M. Levine, E. Carlson, G. Lindquist, K. Murray, D. Thompson, P. Magalnick, A. Bingham

## MINUTES

Meeting started at 12:40 pm and FJ welcomed the group

April Meeting minutes were approved with no changes

Marty mentioned one critical item which needs to be a priority - Must find a secretary for the committee. It must be someone who is on the committee and the position requires creating an agenda, list of members, meeting minutes, and filing the minutes with the Town Clerk. The role also requires coordination with FJ to get the agenda sent out. FJ responded he will send out an email to see if someone can do the minutes. Phil volunteered if no one else will step up.

FOI (Freedom of Information) requirements are to be considered and the only requirements are to state the meeting start and end times, and any notes which creates historical value. Marty specified legally, if someone is interested, they may go to the Town Clerk's office and request the meeting minutes. In the case of a complaint or lawsuit, they have the right to look at and see what was sent in the emails (this is in response to a question regarding the use of personal emails vs. city email address). If you use your personal email address, please note your ALL of your emails are subject to review. Individuals can make the decision which email address they choose to use. There is the issue of Risk - High (for someone on the zoning committee), Low (A4A Committee).

Kevin updated the group on the installation of the Moby Mat at Cummings Beach. The mat will be completed by 10:30am on Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> and will be located to the left of the jetty. Approximately at noon, the mat will be tested for wheelchair use. The plan is on Friday, May 26<sup>th</sup> to have local press, Mayor and the public to promote the use of the newly installed Moby Mat at the beach and highlight and promote it as a new and necessary amenity at the park. FJ questioned the percentage of slope - will there be any issues with getting back up from the beach if there is a slope. Kevin will look into it. Libby will check the Mayor's calendar and get back to the group for timing issues. Late morning, early afternoon will work best.

Kevin also brought a rendering of the plans for Cummings Restoration. It's slated to begin in Fall 2017. This will be a multi-phase project. Kevin introduced Danny, the building foreman. Danny will work on the punch list items from the survey. Some of the items - adjusting door closures, removing obstructions and updating to 36" doorways to code. He mentioned they will coordinate with other departments for some items. An additional item is the patio project; issue with the membranes and they are working on it to stop the leaking. FJ inquired as to when the entrance doors to the garage will be addressed. Marty brought up that it may be a bid process. The original scope for the projects included the bathrooms in the lobby and 4th floor. Nancy Ornsby-Flynn from Engineering is overseeing these projects. Currently the restrooms (Men's, Women's) are not ADA compliant and very dated. Goal is to have a unisex bathroom on the 4th floor.

Phil brought up the sidewalk access issue. He has been in contact with Ellen. Two weeks ago Phil put in an official complaint in writing. He also put in calls to the zoning department, which to date have not been returned. Brother Jimmy's continues to be an issue with the seating barrier.

Fuji Restaurant and Picantes have no license or permit for outdoor seating. Fuji's was cited, removed their tables and chairs and the next day put them back despite still not having a permit and license. The flower pots at Chez Vous Bistro remain an issue as they are not an appropriate barrier.

Table 104 besides not have a permit for its outdoor seating, also does not have a building permit for outdoor seating. In addition their outdoor cafe blocks the handicap space. Per the ordinance (under ADA - 5%) they must have movable tables and chairs; the benches are not movable.

The DSSD Ambassadors are out all the time downtown and doing what they can. They have no enforcement capabilities if they do spot any violators -that is enforceable by the zoning department. Volte on Spring Street also has an issue since it has no barriers around its outdoor seating.

Phil spoke with Lenny Fiengold, an attorney in Seattle, Washington. The issue is not confined to only Stamford with regards to sidewalks. Phil mentioned that he has been considering being an Advocate himself due to the lack of results in enforcement. Phil brought up the crossing guard motor vehicle being parked on the sidewalk next to Rite-Aide on Morgan Street. Cars should not be parked on the sidewalk as it is a Class 3 Infraction. Phil reached out to Jim Matheny, Assistant Chief of Police in Stamford, and Jim responded "It's an important job" re: Crossing Guard. He also stated Jim mentioned the importance of having the crossing guard at the lights and intersection.

Paul Zeiss from the building department was supposed to be talking to Zoning re the missing permits of restaurants who installed Outdoor cafes - Libby will follow up.

Greg (DSSD) will look into the Best Practices from other cities so that we can get some ideas to perhaps amend or replace the ordinance after review.

Meetings will resume in September. There will be no meetings in June, July or August.  
Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm