

# Minutes

Fair Haven Management Meeting  
295 Blatchley Ave. New Haven, CT 06513  
January 3, 2019

- ❖ **Call to order:** 6:13pm
- ❖ **Welcome and Introductions**
  - Reviewed all eligible to vote tonight – able to make quorum
  - Current members attempted to contact all missing members who are eligible to vote
  - Introduction of new members
- ❖ **Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes** – previous meeting minutes unavailable
- ❖ **Police Report –Lt. Mark O’Neill**
  - No report
- ❖ **Fire Department**
  - No report
- ❖ **LCI Report – Lauri Lopez**
  - No report
- ❖ **Old Business**
  - **Vote to Executive Board**
    - Chair, Chair, Vice-Chair Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary
    - Michelle Lee Rodriguez – running for Chair, lifelong fair haven resident, interested in supporting the community and making it a better environment for everyone, wants the whole team to collaborate to work together
    - Mishele E. Rodriguez – running for Vice Chair, continuing
    - Kimberly Acosta – running for Recording secretary, likes to take notes and prides herself on her note taking,
    - Susan Regan – running for Treasurer, bookkeeper by profession, lived in fair haven for 13 years
    - David Weinreb – running for corresponding secretary, excited to take on the role, bilingual teacher in the community, step up regular email communication and social media presence, wants to move the meeting to the library, looking to help things improve and run more smoothly
    - Discussion from community: important to have the meeting focus on the community for their priority and not the outside enterprises who are coming for our support for grants and things; may be helpful to use the neighborhood works/new horizons community center as a meeting space
    - Ballots passed out to voting members
      - Final tally
        - ◆ Chair – Diane Ecton, Michelle Lee Rodriguez
        - ◆ Vice Chair – Mishele E. Rodriguez
        - ◆ Recording Secretary – Kimberly Acosta
        - ◆ Treasurer – Susan Regan
        - ◆ Corresponding Secretary – David Weinreb
    - Would be a good idea for people coming for the CDBG grants that we limit how many can come; this is hard for the agencies because the applications come out

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- in November and if they are providing services in your community they need a letter of support by January; if an organization is serving fair haven we may be able to figure out who they are and better organize/present their information
- Thank you to LeAnne Reynolds for being the recording secretary for the last few years and David Weinreb
  - Discussion – get translating boxes with headphones to help with the future meetings, have the meeting minutes in Spanish going forward, add to the agenda for the next meeting to form a committee and revise the bylaws
- TABLED FROM NOVEMBER MEETING
- Farnum Neighborhood House
  - Guns Down Books Up
  - Catholic Charities
  - Emergency Shelter Management
- TABLED FROM DECEMBER MEETING
- ELM CITY PARKS CONSERVANCY - MARGE OTTENBREIT
  - PARTENTING STUDENT CHILD CARE – ROBIN EVANS
  - SOLAR YOUTH PROGRAM – DEBORAH ORTIZ
  - ELM CITY INTERNATIONAL – LAUREN MEDNICK
  - MARY WADE HOME – DAVID HUNTER
- **Moved that we vote on the November and December items as soon as we reach quorum**
- ❖ **New Business**
- VERTICAL CHURCH – ELDER PAUL BRONSON
- Started the food pantry in the Fair Haven substation
  - For the last 3 months averaged over 100 families
  - For thanksgiving gave out over 50 turkey baskets
  - Able to get fresh produce from the food bank and loaves and fishes
  - Open on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month to help families make it through the month until the start of the next month
  - Gave out about 150 turkeys and baskets to the elderly
  - Looking to open another food pantry at the Atwater senior center
  - Has a lot of cardboard after the Saturday distributions
    - Would like to use the recycle bins out front
      - ◆ Will work to speak with the school to see if they can be utilized
- BOARD OF EDUCATION – SERGIO RODRIGUEZ
- Asking for a letter of support for the CDBG grant that they are applying to receive
  - Had over 120 homeless children in the district last year and about 35-40% of the kids are in fair haven

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- Looking to provide comprehensive case management, identify unaccompanied minors (last year there were 9 this year there are almost 30), increase outreach to students and the community, design and expand homeless training, evaluate the work that they are going to review and revise
- FAMILY HOPE JUSTICE CENTER – PAOLA SEREECCHIA
  - Umbrella center for domestic services
  - Serving 19 towns including New Haven
  - One stop shop where individuals can go if they are being abused and/or stalked
    - Can go there for services including police, social service agencies for adults and children
    - Having one of these centers in New Haven is very necessary and would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> one in the state the other is in Bridgeport
      - ◆ Should be opening in March
  - The Dixwell location is open 2 days a week
  - Discussion – can we get information about how many fair haven community members utilize their services (yes)
- LULAC – KELLY DAVIS
  - Sharing the opportunity, they must move to a new building – looking to move off of James Street
  - Has been in fair haven for 30 years
  - Birth to 5 head start center that provides comprehensive services to families
  - 106 Haven Street – currently an empty warehouse
    - Will be able to house what they need, including a 2<sup>nd</sup> floor that can be built for their additional services
    - When the building is complete, they will move in to avoid an interruption of services
  - Thanking the community for being a partner and sharing that they have worked hard to remain in the community
- OPENING OF NEW BUSINESS – JOHN MCFADYEN
  - No report

### ❖ Community Presentations

- Haven free clinic run by the Yale students
  - Flyer handed out
  - Would love to partner with agency community
  - Currently located downtown on 800 Howard Ave

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- All services are provided in English and Spanish
- Always looking for interpreters
  - Anyone looking to volunteer
- Must be uninsured to qualify for services

## ❖ Announcements

- Fair Haven Library programs
  - See attached flyer
- 1/27 from 1-5 at the Atwater
  - Looking at the Chatham Square annual retreat
  - Presentation of information and data that has been collected
- Snow Turner
  - Literacy Volunteers
  - Call 203-776-5899 for more information
  - Looking for more volunteers
    - Must take 3-4 trainings before becoming a volunteer
  - See attached flyers
- Fair Haven Festival
  - Looking to start planning for this year's late May festival
  - If you are interested in volunteering or participating contact David Weinreb
- Farnum Community House
  - Looking to become more involved in the community
  - Will be attending future meetings
- Catholic Charities
  - Looking to learn and become more involved in the community
  - Will be attending future meetings

## ❖ Adjournment: 7:26pm