

# Minutes

Fair Haven Management Meeting  
295 Blatchley Ave. New Haven, CT 06513  
March 2, 2017

- ❖ **Call to order:** 6:03pm
  - **Present:** LeAnne Brewer, Diane Ecton, Dave Steinhardt, Sally Esposito
- ❖ **Present City, State, and Federal Officials:** Robert Roberts, Jose Crespo, Kenneth Reriez, Mark Firla
- ❖ **Welcome and Introductions** **5 Minutes**
  - All new attendees introduced themselves
  - Ernie Santiago asked to be excused from the meeting
  - Alderman Greenberg is absent Alderman Jose Crespo speaking on his behalf
- ❖ **Review/Approval of Meeting Minutes** **5 Minutes**
  - Moved and seconded to approve the minutes voted and passed
- ❖ **Police Report – Sergeant Rene’e Dominguez** **10 Minutes**
  - No report for sake of time
- ❖ **LCI Neighborhood Specialist – Laurie Lopez Johnson** **10 Minutes**
  - The neighborhood did a decent job this year with snow removal
  - Still working on tire removal
  - The crew has diminished in size so projects are taking longer than expected
    - They will be done just time more time
  - On the corner of Saltonstall and Ferry habitat from humanity will be building a home
  - By Grand Ave and East St. – a new company bought a large property
    - Started demolition today
    - Will be taking down all of the buildings on that property
    - Will be working with processed stone and asfalt
  - At the deadend of River and Poplar
    - There are 2 very large buildings that were foreclosed on
    - There are 2 shantys that were built in that area and the buildings were open
      - Without Curtis around the people are using that area for negative activities
    - The fence in the back parking lot is gone so it needs to be secured
    - The police will be paying more attention to this area going forward
  - C-Town/Fairhaven School area
    - Lot of trash in that area
    - Supposed to do the light the night in that area but it was never completed
    - Also a lot of people participating in negative activites in that area
      - The police will include a walking beat in that area going forward
- ❖ **Old Business** **5 Minutes**
  - **Bylaws Review**
    - Last revision was in 2008

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- Robert Rules of Order was agreed to be used in the bylaws
  - Need to take a look at the 501c3 status prior to revising the bylaws
- Motion made by Sally E. that a bylaws subcommittee consisting of the vice chair and two other members be created. The bylaws subcommittee shall be chaired by the vice chair and shall be advisory and shall be recommendations to the full membership no later than the 2017 annual meeting
  - Discussion – proposed that we open the subcommittee to any voting members who want to participate
    - ◆ The committee would only be making recommendations and would bring it back to the meeting to be voted on by members
  - Voted on and passed
  - Moved and seconded to open nominations for the committee –
    - ◆ Jose Crespo
    - ◆ Darlene
    - ◆ Kenneth Rivera
    - ◆ LeAnne Brewer
  - Moved to amend original motion to consist of 4 people instead of 3
  - Moved to amend motion to consist of 5 people instead of 4
  - Voted on and the nominations were accepted

## ❖ New Business

10 Minutes

- **Greenspace Program - Chris Ozyck**
  - From the Urban Resource Initiative
    - Creates green projects
  - If you have people in the neighborhood that want to work in parks/vacant lots/curb strips/front yard there are applications available to begin this project
  - If you would like a free tree there are “request a free tree” cards available through the initiative
- **New Haven Bike Month – Caroline Smith**
  - Month long celebration of biking culture in May
  - Make sure everyone feels safe and excited to participate in bike culture
  - Fair Haven pop-up festival
    - Shut down blachley st last year and did bike safety work with the local students
    - Some of the students received free bikes
    - This year the festival is in June
  - What would we like to see in a may bike month event in fair haven
    - Take advantage of the space in Chriscola Park
    - Thinking about wheelie competitions to embrace how members of this community participate in bike culture
    - [www.newhavenbikemonth.com](http://www.newhavenbikemonth.com)

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- **Leeway Community Living Model – Melissa Cox**
  - Located off of State Street
  - Supports individuals with multiple chronic conditions to remain living in their homes in the community
    - Mental and physical conditions
    - No age requirements
  - Involves long term wrap around services and support
  - Referrals come from the hospital
  - Looking for a local community liason that can communicate what is needed in this community specifically
  - Only servicing New Haven
  - Also interested in the informal community supports
- **Emergency Shelter Management Services**
  - Jose Crespo read a letter from Alderman Greenberg in regards to the board of zoning and appeals
    - Opposes the new zoning request made by ESMS
      - ◆ Supports the shelter but does not think the proposed move is appropriate
        - Does not think they have made the appropriate steps to comply with the regulations
        - Other opposing opinions include
          - The shelter doesn't come to the neighbors to speak with them about the issues they face
          - Moving the building isolates the shelter clients further from the community
          - Transient population causes businesses not to want to move into the area
          - Keeping the shelter residents safe from being near the railroad tracks
            - The shelter does not foresee this being a safety issue
  - The shelter is proposing to move into a building that is already standing on East St.
  - The housing authority wants to buy their current building to move Farnum Court Housing Complex into that area
    - No concret timeline for when the move will happen
  - LCI is in support of the move and gave a list of locations that they could move into
  - This building fits all of their needs
    - On the main bus line
    - Next to the methadone clinic
    - Not in any residential areas
    - Right size and right price

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- This agency does a lot of work to support the men and help guide them into permanent and stable housing
  - Even if they get housed they can come back for up to 6 months for case management services
- Largest men's shelter in the state
  - Capacity of 75 with 85 on extremely cold nights
- In 26 months about 36 police reports were made
  - There were more for Columbus House and even more for local grocery stores and Walmart
- In the 2015-2016 year they had an unduplicated number of over 1,000 clients
- The city planning department indicated that the very rear of the lot has a .02% chance of being effected by a 100 year flood
  - The city plan didn't specify if the rear of the building was in that flood area or the rear of the lot
  - the shelter has commissioned an expert to study the potential flood issues
  - the location has ample parking and space in the parking lot for the clients to line up instead of being on the street
  - the building will be fitted with cameras to keep the space and clients secure
- Motion is made to write a letter to support Aldermans Greenberg's request to write a letter not supporting ESMS
  - voted and the management team is not in support of Aldermans Greenberg's request
- ESMS will be added to the agenda of the April meeting to request support
- Moved to write a letter of support for ESMS requesting a variance
  - Discussion – we should be able to come to a consensus before writing this letter
    - Suggested to be added to next months agenda so documentation can be presented
    - Made a point that this could potentially change procedures of the management team
  - Voted 5 to 5 to write a letter of support and to wait until next month's meeting
    - Voted again and passed to not write the letter at this moment and to invite them to next month's meeting
- Might be powerful to attend the BZA meeting on 3/14 to support them individually
  - 6:30pm 200 Orange st. in the hearing room

## ❖ Announcements

5 Minutes

- **Big Brother – Guillermo Serrano**
  - Support Big Brother/Big Sister of Southwestern CT by donating at Savers
    - Will pick up furniture
    - Looking for all donations
    - Has raised over \$1 million

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- Project Longevity
  - Hosting a community talk on 3/16/17 from 4:30 – 6:30pm

## ❖ Adjournment

## ❖ Upcoming Meetings

- April 6, 2017
- May 4, 2017
- June 1, 2017
- August 3, 2017
- September – Picnic
- October 5, 2017
- November – Thanksgiving volunteer event
- December 7, 2017 – Holiday Party