

**TOWN OF DARIEN
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FEBRUARY 23, 2015**

ATTENDANCE: First Selectman Jayme Stevenson; Christopher (Kip) Hall
Susan Marks, Gerald Nielsen, E. Reilly Tierney.

STAFF: Karl Kilduff, Administrative Officer.

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Stevenson called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

PRESENTATION from Eagle Scout Candidate Alexander Cohen

Mr. Alexander Cohen described his project and fielded questions and comments, summarized as follows:

He explained that his project is to beautify and refurbish the Noroton River Cemetery by removing weeds, clearing a path, straightening headstones, repairing a stone wall and gate sign. He described that by refurbishing the cemetery, the people of Darien can learn about the history of the town and it will turn a place that was previously unknown and ignored into a place people can relax and enjoy.

First Selectman asked for what is required and for a summary of funding needs and fundraising efforts. Mr. Cohen spoke about the need for only basic gardening tools for removing any rocks and to move mulch/woodchips, weeding and planting flowers to transport woodchips and other supplies around the site.

Mr. Cohen spoke of efforts to solicit donations from Nielsen's, and Rings end along with assistance from DPW with removal of debris and help from volunteer scouts. He described that there would be a bench with a plaque placed in the seating area commemorating the founding fathers of Darien buried in the cemetery to give background to anyone in the cemetery. He added that he plans to begin carrying out the project to be completed early to mid spring.

Ms. Marks asked what maintenance plans were in place and how expenses could be covered. Mr. Cohen spoke about his outreach to living descendents and support gained, along with annual maintenance that is done by the Town once or twice a year.

Comments from the Board were fielded including suggestion to reach out to the Darien Historical Society to partner with them. The Selectmen acknowledged the efforts by the Eagle Scout and they extended appreciation of the project that will greatly enhance the historical awareness and benefit the Town of Darien.

First Selectman Stevenson was then asked to sign the authorization for Eagle Scout Cohen to proceed with his project.

PRESENTATION from Eagle Scout Candidate Pete McMaster

Pete McMaster described his project, fielded questions and comments, and explained that his Eagle Project will be setting up an educational scavenger hunt in the Darien Nature Center. He outlined that in order to carry out this project he has organized a fund raiser 5K Road Race for March 22 with local sponsorships. He explained that he has contacted the Police Department for coverage of one officer on foot and one on cycle.

Comments from the Selectman were made to acknowledge the efforts by the Eagle Scout McMaster and they extended appreciation of the project.

(Item 8a was then moved up in the order of the agenda.)

Discuss and Take Action on Action of a Road Race to be held on March 22

**** MR. HALL MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN HEREBY
GRANTS PERMISSION FOR A ROAD RACE TO BENEFIT THE DARIEN NATURE
CENTER TO TAKE PLACE ON MARCH 22, 2015, SUBJECT TO THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE DARIEN POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE DARIEN
BOARD OF EDUCATION.**

**** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Discussion regarding Plan of Conservation and Development with
Planning Consultant and Members of the Planning & Zoning Commission

First Selectman Stevenson noted that this discussion would be tabled until attendance by the consultant at the meeting of March 9.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

First Selectman Stevenson stated she had nothing further to report.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Kilduff reported that energy efficiency program has begun with supply requisitions for DPW and Police Department for the fiscal year. He added that the Parking Study has begun with a kick-off meeting with the consultant to get work started in March.

PUBLIC COMMENT

First Selectman Stevenson asked if there were members of the public that wished to speak, and hearing none, closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

Budget Transfer

First Selectman Stevenson referred to the memorandum outlining the supporting documentation and explained funding is sought to engage a consultant to assist in updating the Town’s EMS Plan per State requirements. The project to update the plan will also involve a review of Post 53’s operations, focused to identify the capabilities of the current system and the issues facing EMS services.

Mr. Walter Casey asked to comment, and First Selectman noted that although public comment was held earlier in the agenda, she would accept comments after this discussion.

There was further discussion and comments and questions were fielded from the Board members. First Selectman Stevenson explained that they had reached out to the community and this was fully vetted by the Board. Mr. Kilduff added that methodology was the same as other towns in consideration of different varying circumstances. It was noted that Darien’s plan was last written 10 years ago, and it is a required state mandate.

**** MS. MARKS MOVED TO APPROVE THE BUDGET TRANSFER AS FOLLOWS:**

RESOLVED:

That the following transfer of appropriations is approved for referral to the Board of Finance:

<u>From:</u>			<u>To:</u>		
Acct. No.	Account	Amount	Acct. No.	Account	Amount
	BOF Contingency	\$27,000	TBD	EMS Study and Plan	\$27,000
	TOTAL	\$27,000		TOTAL	\$27,000

**** MR. NIELSEN SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Casey asked if the public is allowed to meet to review this study. First Selectman explained as noted that to meet state requirements for an assessment it was determined to bring in an outside entity to review the Post to provide recommendations and deliver an updated EMS Plan.

Mr. Casey asked if they will be privy to the selection of the firm, and First selectman replied that this has not yet been decided, and she would inform him of the decision. She stated that the same guidelines would be followed as done in 2002 and that he could submit comments and questions to her and she would forward on to the consultant.

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Darien
Hereby Grants Permission to the Darien Chamber of Commerce for
Darien Sidewalk Sales & Family Fun to take place on July 9-11, 2015.

First Selectman Stevenson referred to the memorandum outlining the supporting documentation, noted corrections on dates to reflect 2015. She explained this is an annual Town event and she is proud to recommend approval.

**** MR. HALL MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF DARIEN HEREBY GRANTS
PERMISSION TO THE DARIEN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR DARIEN
SIDEWALK SALES & FAMILY FUN TO TAKE PLACE ON JULY 9-11, 2015.**

**** MR. TIERNEY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

PRESENTATION from the Student Governing Board/SADD from the Depot

First Selectman Stevenson acknowledged the group of students in attendance, and stated that although the item was on the agenda, invited them to speak.

Tiger Sullivan introduced the students and gave an overview of The Depot that provides Darien teenagers with a supervised, substance-free environment that meets weekly to create and manage local events. The student members spoke and described their roles and responsibilities and reviewed highlights of programs and upcoming events including Cop Shop, Kids in Crisis Youth Corps, SADD, Safety Fair, Kick Butts Day, Darien Closet Shelter.

First Selectman asked what would happen if the Town was no longer able to provide grant funding to the Depot. Mr. Sullivan replied that the grant primarily is used for staffing, utilities and event expenses. He added that the staff oversight is valuable asset to the event coordination of The Depot. Selectman Marks asked if this is a grade specific membership. They explained that each grade collaborates to have a representative organization that involves all high school and recruits middle school students.

There was an overview of SADD, Students Against Destructive Decisions, that provides prevention tools encompassing issues of underage drinking, drug use, impaired driving, texting while driving and other destructive decisions.

It was noted that the Safety Fair is May 4 that includes awareness of the above programs including eating disorders, depression and mental health.

First Selectman Stevenson noted that March 10 at 6:30 at the Darien Library is a program called "Behind the Curtain" which is a thought provoking documentary on heroin use.

The Selectmen thanked the students for attending the meeting and noted appreciation for all their hard work with this very valuable organization.

NEW BUSINESS

AGENDA REVIEW

Mr. Nielsen asked for an update on Edgerton, and Mr. Kilduff noted that this would be provided.

Ms. Marks asked if there was a punch list of outstanding project completion for 35 Leroy. First Selectman Stevenson replied that she would ask the Board of Education tomorrow at the meeting for information of the final project review as outlined.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of January 5, 2015

- ** MR.HALL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 5, 2015 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MS. MARKS SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Special Meeting of January 12, 2015

- ** MR. NIELSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 12, 2015 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MR. HALL SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Regular Meeting of January 12, 2015

- ** MR.HALL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 12, 2015 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MR. TIERNEY SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Special Meeting of February 11, 2015

- ** MR. NIELSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2015 AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MR. HALL SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS:

February 24, 2015	Board of Education Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM
February 24, 2015	Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting at 8:00 PM
March 3, 2015	Board of Finance Regular Meeting at 7:30 PM
March 3, 2015	Planning & Zoning Commission Regular Meeting at 8:00 PM
March 9, 2015	Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM

Adjournment

- ** MR. HALL MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.
- ** MR. TIERNEY SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Knox,
Telesco Secretarial Services