

RTM Public Health & Safety Committee

February 27, 2017

Darien Town Hall Room 213

MINUTES

In Attendance: Mac Patrick, Gary Swenson, Bill Peters, Laura Mosher, Nina Miller, Colin Kelly, Brian Rayhill, Kate Haueisen

New Members in Attendance: Lois Schneider, Mia Handler, Susanne Handler, Holly Giordano, Caroline McGoey

- M. Patrick called the meeting to order at approximately 7:20pm.
- PH&S members introduced themselves
- Committee unanimously approved the minutes of the October 24, 2016 PHS Meeting
 - New Members (outlined above) abstained from vote
- Committee members discussed aspects of Stadium Lights and Ox Ridge Hunt Club property acquisition as related to Public Health & Safety
- Stadium Lights discussion included:
 - The consensus among committee members was that the stadium lights was positive for the town and was solving a safety issue within the community
 - M. Patrick pointed out that the role of the RTM at this point for the lights was to determine if the town would or would not accept the gift, group consensus was to vote to accept the gift
- Ox Ridge Hunt Club discussion included:
 - The committee recognized the purchase as a positive move for the town, but also realized several potential public safety issues that may need to be addressed as discussions continue regarding how the property will be utilized, including:
 - current geese problem on property
 - parking
 - mud/wet areas
 - potential need for fencing or temporary fencing if fields are used for sports
- Announcements/New Business
 - M. Patrick asked if there were any thoughts, or concerns related to issues that may come to PH&S in the future
 - B. Peters explained that the volunteer fire departments in town are considering ideas to increase recruitment for volunteers. There are ongoing discussions with the town and the Board of Selectmen to consider how to engage the public to volunteer.

- Q&A from new members regarding procedures for PH&S committee
- Discussion about how the Darien 911 system and dispatch operates
- Discussion about burglaries in town, specifically items being taken from unlocked vehicles
- Committee discussed snow removal on sidewalks in town, question as to whether or not the town is enforcing the ordinance.
 - H. Giordano will mention to the Board of Realtors to see if the ordinance could be explained to owners who have homes for sale, but are currently vacant, to remind them to shovel sidewalks.
 - G. Swenson shared his frustration as a homeowner with a sidewalk adjacent to his property. Discussion as to whether the town should consider taking responsibility for clearing sidewalks, perhaps on the most high traffic roads.
- M. Patrick made motion to adjourn, B. Rayhill second - 7:56pm

Respectfully submitted

Kate Haueisen