

**City of Norwalk
Mayor's Water Quality Committee Meeting
October 3, 2019
Minutes**

CALL TO ORDER 6:02 PM

ATTENDANCE

Members: Joe Schnierlein, Diane Lauricella, John Crespo, Geoff Steadman, Pete Johnson, Jim Bartley, Chris Malik

Staff: Thomas Closter

Guests: Deborah Goldstein, Sgt. Pete LaPak

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Motion to Approve by Pete Johnson, second by Diane Lauricella. Unanimous Vote.

DISCUSSION

- 1) Chairman Schnierlein gave an update on Per and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). He explained what the State of CT is doing to address PFAS. Governor Ned Lamont established the Connecticut Interagency PFAS Task Force on July 8, 2019 which is led by the Department of Public Health and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and contains representatives from a broad variety of State Agencies and is tasked with delivering a PFAS action plan by October 1, 2019. A draft of this plan was made available to the Committee and Chairman Schnierlein has sent his comments to the Task Force. His concerns are:
 - How can PFAS be removed at the user end using charcoal filters or a reverse osmosis filter system?
 - With construction beginning on the Walk Bridge, PFAS could be in sediments and there should be a sampling and remediation protocol in place.
 - PFAS compounds in water supplies could impact real estate.
 - There needs to be a study of the incidences of cancer and other PFAS related health issues
 - Task Force set up a list of goals with no timelines attached to them.
 - The establishment of multiple test sites in Connecticut for PFAS.
- 2) Chairman Schnierlein talked about the Norwalk River Watershed Initiative and how a meeting of the representatives from the watershed towns and the State and Federal agencies can be convened to re-establish the initiative. Chris Malik discussed initiative with Alexis Cherichetti, Senior Environmental Officer, to try planning a meeting for November or December. Items discussed were purpose, interest, funding, frequency of meetings, sustainability, membership and prioritizing the plan.
- 3) New Business discussed was Walk Bridge plans for developing marshland as well as Diamond Back Terrapin Habitat and Environmental Impact and DOT Yankee Doodle Bridge drainage plans upgraded to improve what is entering the Norwalk River from I95.

PAGE 2

Geoff Steadman said Harbor Management worked with DOT and they are pleased with the new drainage plans.

- 4) Geoff Steadman and Chairman Schnierlein discussed a study that was done by Dr. Peter Pellegrino in the late 1970's regarding an environmental monitoring program for the management of Norwalk Harbor. Chairman Schnierlein pointed out the high and diverse number of species mentioned in the study.
- 5) Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 7, 2019 at 6:00pm in the Health Department.
Motion to adjourn meeting by Pete Johnson, second by Diane Lauricella 6:55pm
Minutes by Thomas Closter