

PAGE 1

City of Norwalk Mayor's Water Quality Committee Meeting June 6, 2019 Minutes

CALL TO ORDER 6:00 PM

ATTENDANCE

Members: Steve Bartush, Joe Schnierlein, Pete Johnson, Dick Harris, Diane Lauricella, Louise Washer, John Romano, Geoff Steadman, Jim Bartley

Staff: Thomas Closter

Guests: Pat Tomlinson, Lynelle Jones, Nick Roberts, Nick Sacchinelli

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Correction on the minutes: Betsey Wingfield has been promoted to Deputy Commissioner of DEEP's Environmental Quality Branch, not Bureau Chief of Water Planning and land reuse (WPLR).

Motion to Approve by Diane Lauricella, second by Steve Bartush. Unanimous Vote.

DISCUSSION

- 1) Chairman Schnierlein said there has been no new update or any communication regarding Eversource's proposal for the transmission cables. Geoff Steadman said there is not enough information regarding restrictions that will be put on the visitor's dock.
- 2) Chairman Schnierlein discussed the Long Island Sound Blue Plan. The purpose of the Blue Plan is to protect traditional uses, minimize conflicts and maximize compatibility. The plan will have an impact on Harbor Commissions and water less than 10 feet deep as well as navigational channels. It will not have any impact on Shellfish Commissions.
- 3) Nick Roberts, Director of Recreation & Parks attended meeting to discuss pesticides and herbicides used on City Parks & Fields. They use burnout on High School grass athletic fields, the fence line at Taylor Farm, some areas at Cranbury Park, Veteran's Park and the Beach. No Pesticides are used on School grounds.
- 4) Chairman Schnierlein discussed the water quality monitors installed by the Department of Transportation at the Police Dock and would like to find out how to request data from the monitors.
- 5) Chairman Schnierlein talked about a drainage pipe at 6 Nathan Hale Rd. Lynelle Jones, a resident of Wilson Point, has concerns that installation of road drainage must be accompanied by a permit from either the local or state government, especially when the discharge dumps directly in to the waters of the State of Ct. Anthony Carr, Chief of Operations & Public Works and John Gaucher, Environmentalist Analyst from the Land & Water Resources Division of DEEP are investigating the concerns.
- 6) Chairman Schnierlein talked about issues with a discharge pipe on Reed St that is providing a plume of silt and sediments into the Norwalk River, possibly coming from the Mall site. Harborwatch will take water samples and Planning & Zoning will look at erosion controls.
- 7) Steve Bartush mentioned that Hawaii just voted to ban sunscreen that harms coral.
- 8) Diane Lauricella said Conservation is holding a Public Meeting regarding flooding on June 11, 2019 at 6:00pm

PAGE 2

- 9) Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 11, 2019 at 6:00pm in the Health Department.
Motion to adjourn meeting by Louise Washer, second by Jim Bartley 7:01pm
Minutes by Thomas Closter