

**CITY OF NORWALK
HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 25, 2025, 7:00 PM
BY ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

ATTENDEES: Richard Stein, Mark Jackson, Elizabeth Golden, Lisa Wilson Grant, Dana Laird, Diane Jellerette.

STAFF: Michelle Andrzejewski.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Laird called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. Laird conducted the roll call as noted above.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Regular Meeting: July 23rd, 2025

The commission decided to table the approval of the minutes to their next meeting to provide the commission time to review them.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No public participation.

V. REPORTS FROM BOARDS

A. Norwalk Historical Society; Diane Jellerette

Ms. Jellerette highlighted events since the last meeting in July, including a summer beer tasting at Mill Hill and an annual concert with the cooked-up band. She announced upcoming October events: a documentary screening and Q&A on "The Hidden History of Slavery in New York" on October 5th, and a virtual talk on "Vampires in Connecticut" by Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni on October 26th. Ms. Jellerette also mentioned a November 9th talk by Mark Alverson on the military and militia, collection rotations at the museum including needlepoint and WPA mural room updates, and a 10-year open house celebration in December.

B. Lockwood-Mathews Museum; Susie Gilgore

No report.

VI. REPORTS

A. Buildings

Ms. Andrzejewski relayed notes from David, stating the old shed at Mill Hill, also known as the Well House, was demolished and replaced with an 8x12 shed built by the Cloter family, delivered two weeks ago. She noted the new shed's wood-shingled roof blends well and will store tables and chairs. Ms. Andrzejewski also mentioned rebuilt rotted stairs to the Gate Lodge addition, a \$13K re-roofing project funded from the capital budget, a \$100K estimate for a slate roof pending National Register listing and grant funding, and replacement of non-working video security systems at Mill Hill and the museum for \$7K and \$12K, respectively, with funding from this year's capital budget. Additionally, she reported the annual cleaning of 27 interpretive signs with Thompson's water seal.

B. Cemeteries

Ms. Andrzejewski reported that Eagle Scout candidate Lucas Gomez and Scout Troop 39-139 completed a project at Pine Island Cemetery on September 13th-14th, resetting 87 tombs, spraying all 800 with D2 cleaner (to be re-sprayed in spring 2026), and picking up limbs and trash. She noted the need to budget for professional repairs of broken tombstones at Pine Island and other cemeteries, with enough D2 cleaner left for Brookside and Mill Hill, and 20 gallons purchased for \$832, using 12 gallons at Pine Island. Ms. Andrzejewski invited volunteers to assist with spraying.

C. Financials

Ms. Andrzejewski reported the Munis system is temporarily down, delaying financial updates until next week, and the facilities manager will provide a monthly spending report.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Laird mentioned ongoing demolitions and a lack of synchronization with notifications. Ms. Andrzejewski suggested discussing the lack of notice generally, avoiding specific addresses. Ms. Laird noted 7 Michael Street had proper notifications, while 61 Which Lane did not, but agreed to table further discussion until next month as proposed by Ms. Andrzejewski.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Grant updated on working on an America 250 quilt for Middlesex Parish, cross-referencing Revolutionary War patriots with the DAR index, and planning to create a comprehensive list for Norwalk and Rowayton/Darien for the 250th anniversary.

Ms. Laird mentioned a patriot buried in Pine Island and Moses Mather's son, a prisoner of war.

Ms. Jellerette announced two America 250 events: a May reenactment of Rachel Rivera and a July event with Deborah Sampson, with more plans in development.

IX. DISCUSSION

No substantive discussion occurred.

X. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. STEIN MOVED TO ADJOURN.
**MS. GOLDEN SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Baldwin
Recording secretary