Town of Greenwich
Board of Selectmen
Meeting May 12, 2016
10:00 A.M.
Town Hall Meeting Room

MINUTES

1. The meeting opened at 10:09 A.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.
   a. Attendance:
      I. First Selectman Peter J. Tesei - Present
      II. Selectman John Toner - Present
      III. Selectman Drew Marzullo - Present

The First Selectman greeted and welcomed attendees commenting that it was a Public Meeting of the Board of Selectmen who reserve the right to call on people to propose questions and make comments.

2. Approval of Minutes
   a. Minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen meeting held on 4-28-2016 were moved for approval by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The motion passed unanimously.

3. First Selectman's Updates
   a. The Junior League of Greenwich Community Advisory Board held its annual meeting on April 28 and gave updates on the support of various activities around town
   b. The Liberation Programs 'Spirit of Hope' dinner was held at the Greenwich Hyatt on April 28. The Town has hosted Liberation Programs Director Alan Mathis and is partnering with the agency that is completing a town-wide assessment of opioid addiction and use in town so that the Town can reduce the rate of use and impact on residents. Liberation Programs has two treatment centers in Greenwich.
   c. The Town supported the YWCA's always inspiring 'Stand Against Racism' day here in the Town Hall Meeting Room on April 29.
   d. On April 29, the First Selectman met with a group of Putnam Hill residents who continue to be concerned with the proposed new Neighbor to Neighbor center on the Christ Church campus and are looking at access to their complex as well as traffic safety and access to East Putnam Avenue.
   e. The annual Greenwich Distinguished Teacher Award winners were announced on May 3. Congratulations to ANA CHEJIN-DANIELSEN, New Lebanon School, TESOL-Bilingual; JULIE COFONE, North Mianus School, Grade 5; SARAH GOLDIN, Greenwich High School, Science-AVID-Innovation Lab; SARAH HARRIS, North Mianus School, Kindergarten; JEANNINE MADOFF, International School at Dundee, Media and IAN
TIEDEMANN, Greenwich High School, Social Studies. Selectman Toner attended and presented a proclamation. The Selectmen wish the teachers well as one of them will be chosen as Greenwich’s representative in the Connecticut Teacher of the Year competition.

f. The First Selectman also attended the kick-off of the 6th annual Greenwich Reads Together program where ‘Station Eleven’ by novelist Emily St. John Mandel, was announced as the community book selection on May 4.

g. Also on May 4, the Connections Club held its annual luncheon at the Field Club where there was a discussion of work being done around town.

h. Also on May 4, Selectman Marzullo attended the Holocaust Remembrance ceremony at Temple Sholom.

i. India’s Consul General to the United Nations Riva Ganguly Das, along with a delegation of businessmen and bankers from India – some of whom are residents of Greenwich. They also were representing GOPIO – the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin, a Stamford-based organization that cultural events in the tri-state region and also awards scholarships to graduating high school students. They announced that this year they also will be awarding a scholarship to a student from Greenwich.

j. The First Selectman and Selectman Toner attended the National Day of Prayer program held here at Town Hall. The town appreciates the efforts of Nancy Henke in continuing this program.

k. The First Selectman attended the 25th Anniversary celebration of Arch Street Teen center in which Icy and Scott Frantz were honored for the continued support and commitment to the oldest teen center in the country on May 6.

l. On May 7, the Indian Harbor Yacht Club held its commissioning – the start of the boating season is being marked by various commissioning ceremonies at boat clubs around town.

m. The United Way Legislative Breakfast was held on May 10 and its needs assessment report that serves as a resource to guide various governmental entities in addressing community needs was released.

n. The Community Diversity Advisory Committee met May 10 and finalized plans for its annual Diversity Writing Contest. Winners of the contest that drew 80 entries will be announced May 16.

o. A meeting with representatives of various veterans groups in town was held May 10 with RTM member Erf Porter and state Rep. Livvy Floren. The group is planning to establish a formal organization under the aegis of the Office of the First Selectman that will help provide assistance and programming for the veterans in town.

p. The annual celebration of our health care providers was organized by Stephanie Paulmeno, who does a tremendous amount of work with the skilled nurses, and on May 11, First Selectman Tesei issued his proclamation of National Nurses Week.

q. The Greenwich Senior Center hosted Older Americans Month at the Cole Auditorium, which Selectman Toner and First Selectman Tesei attended on
May 11. The speaker was a Sandy Hook School teacher who wrote a book about hope in life.

r. The Greenwich Bar Association celebrated National Law Day on May 12 at Indian Harbor Yacht Club. The Liberty Bell Award was given to Representative Town Meeting Moderator Pro Tempore Joan Caldwell for her service to the town.

s. First Selectman Tesei discussed the May 9 Representative Town Meeting (RTM) votes on the 2016-17 budget. He said The Board of Estimate and Taxation (BET) submitted its budget to the RTM and that the BET met its responsibilities of spending guidelines. However, given the national mood and trend to reduce costs, it was not surprising that the RTM voted 98-94 to make across the board cuts. He said town officials were frustrated by the manner in which the cuts were handled and that town professionals were not given the opportunity to explain their budgets and the impacts of any cuts. Regarding the vote to cut funding for the proposed Northwest Fire and GEMS facility on King Street, the First Selectman voiced concern that there was a divisiveness based on geographic neighborhoods and that pitting neighborhoods against one another will weaken the Town.

Selectman Marzullo also spoke on the defeat of the Northwest station proposal and acknowledged the energy and studies over several years that reinforced the facts that there is a portion of Town that is left vulnerable and underserved. He described comments by RTM members regarding the population size of the Northwest corner and that there has not been a tragedy in that area as ludicrous and dangerous. He also was critical of arbitrary cuts made to the budget and said Town departments should have been given the time to defend their respective budgets.

4. Old Business

5. New Business

A motion by First Selectman Tesei and seconded by Selectman Toner, to reorder the agenda to accommodate a scheduling concern by the Bruce Museum was approved by a 3-0-0 vote.

a. Bruce Museum Executive Director Peter Sutton and Assistant Town Attorney Gene McLoughlin presented the Bruce Museum’s application for Municipal Improvement status for the proposed renovation and expansion of the Museum’s science galleries. The Museum is to receive a $750,000 Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development grant to help fund the project and also requires approval for expansion of parking.

The Board of Selectmen’s approval is required for five (5) items:
1) the assistance agreement between the Museum and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development;
2) an agreement between the Town of Greenwich and the Museum for the renovation and construction project;
3) an amendment to the Bruce Museum management agreement;
4) Municipal Improvement referral status to the lease agreement between
the state of Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Town of
Greenwich and the Bruce Museum, Inc., Interstate 95 (for expansion of
the Museum parking lot), and
5) Municipal Improvement referral status of the lease agreement between
the state of Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Town of
Greenwich and the Bruce Museum, Inc., for Interstate 95.

Mr. Tesei made the motion to approve the assistance agreement between the Museum
and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development. Mr. Toner
seconded the motion that was approved 3-0-0.

Mr. Tesei made the motion to approve an agreement between the Town of Greenwich
and the Museum for the renovation and construction project. Mr. Toner seconded the
motion that was approved 3-0-0.

Mr. Tesei made the motion to approve the make the amendment to the Bruce Museum
management agreement. Mr. Toner seconded the motion that was approved 3-0-0.

Mr. Tesei made the motion to approve the lease agreement between the state of
Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Town of Greenwich and the Bruce
Museum, Inc., Interstate 95 (for expansion of the Museum parking lot). Mr. Toner
seconded the motion that was approved 3-0-0.

Mr. Tesei made the motion to approve the Municipal Improvement referral status to the
approve the lease agreement between the state of Connecticut Department of
Transportation and the Town of Greenwich and the Bruce Museum, Inc., Interstate 95
(for expansion of the Museum parking lot). Mr. Toner seconded the motion that was
approved 3-0-0.

b. Senior Management Analyst Melissa Jones gave a PowerPoint presentation,
updating the Access Greenwich program that was launched in the summer
of 2015. Since the initial launch with the Department of Parks and
Recreation, the Department of Parking Services, Zoning Enforcement and
the Office of the First Selectman has been added to the mobile application
that allows residents to file complaints or concerns related to those specific
departments. From August 2015 to April 2016, there have been 139 separate
requests filed via Access Greenwich. The Town is looking to expand the
service to several more departments including the Town Clerk, Planning &
Zoning and the Tax Assessor, among others.

c. Conservation Director Denise Savageau presented a Municipal
Improvement referral request for the acquisition of the Byram Cemetery,
the Lyon Cemetery and the Byram African-American Cemetery, ancient
cemeteries located at Byram Dock Street and Byram Shore Road. Ms.
Savageau explained that the Town Conservation Commission unanimously
approved the acquisition request at its April 12, 2016 meeting.

Ms. Savageau said that the Town is seeking to preserve its historical
resources, especially inactive or ancient cemeteries. These particular cemeteries are of cultural significance as they are the burial plots for several of the Town’s founding families including the Lyon family and of several black families. She also said this burial location is one of 56 abandoned cemeteries in town that currently are under review by the Cemetery Committee of the Conservation Commission.

Selectman Drew Marzullo read a letter of support for the acquisition submitted by Jo Conboy of the Greenwich Historical Trust.

A motion to approve the Municipal Improvement referral status was made by Mr. Tesei and seconded by Mr. Toner. The motion was approved 3-0-0.

d. Community Development /Grants Administrator Princess Erfe presented the eight applications for the 2016 Neighborhood Assistance Act. The program administers tax credits to businesses proposing to provide assistance to local nonprofit organizations and programs.

A public hearing was begun at 11:29 a.m. upon the 3-0-0 vote on the motion to open the hearing that was made by Mr. Tesei and seconded by Mr. Toner. No one came forward to speak at the public that was closed at 11:33 a.m. following a motion that was made by Mr. Toner and seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The vote was 3-0-0.

Mr. Toner made a motion to accept the eight applications as presented that was seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The motion was approved 3-0-0.

6. Appointments and Nominations

a. Mr. Tesei moved the nomination of Vick Sandhu to serve as a regular member of the Board of Health with a term expiring March 31, 2020. Mr. Marzullo seconded the motion which passed 3-0-0.

b. Mr. Tesei moved that the nomination of Dr. Mark Armstrong as a regular member of the Board of Health with a term expiring March 31, 2020. Mr. Toner seconded the motion which passed 3-0-0.

c. Mr. Tesei made a motion to nominate Jeffrey Medina as a member of the Board of Social Services to fill the unexpired term of Lauren Rabin that will expire March 31, 2018. After a second by Mr. Marzullo, the motion was approved 3-0-0.

d. Mr. Tesei made a motion to nominate Margarita Albans, an incumbent member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, to a term expiring March 31, 2019. Mr. Marzullo seconded. The vote: 3-0-0.

e. Mr. Tesei made a motion to appoint Victoria Goss as an alternate member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term ending March 31, 2017. Mr. Toner seconded the motion which passed 3-0-0.

f. Mr. Toner made a motion to nominate Frank O’Connor as an alternate member of the Board of Planning and Zoning Appeals for a term expiring March 31, 2020. Mr. Marzullo seconded. The vote: 3-0-0.

Mr. Tesei said that a special Board of Selectmen may be held next week to act on other nominations that need to be placed on the June call of the Representative Town Meeting
agenda.

7. Executive Session

8. Adjournment
   Mr. Toner motioned to adjourn at 11:50 A.M.; seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the Board voted 3-0 in favor.

[Signature]
Peter J. Tesei, First Selectman

[Signature]
Prepared by Barbara Heins
   Recording Secretary