TOWN OF GREENWICH
BOARD OF ESTIMATE AND TAXATION
NATHANIEL WITHERELL STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

MINUTES – Mazza Conference Room, Town Hall
Friday, November 4, 2016

Committee: Arthur D. Norton; Elizabeth K. Krumeich, Jill Oberlander; Nancy Weissler

Others: Peter Mynarski, Comptroller

The meeting was called to order at 8:42 A.M.

1. Approval of the BET Nathaniel Witherell Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the October 14, 2016 meeting with Mike Handler, City of Stamford, were approved at the October 21st meeting by a vote of 2 to 0 (Norton, Oberlander abstaining).

Ms. Weissler corrected language in the circulated October 21st minutes to show that the City of Stamford’s annual savings from transferring Smith House to a private operator were projected at $3 million to $4 million. Mr. Mynarski commented that this is more accurately characterized as a reduction in the City’s losses since it is a deficit operation. Upon a motion made by Mr. Norton, seconded by Ms. Oberlander, the Committee voted 4 to 0 to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2016 meeting with the changes noted by Ms. Weissler.

2. Discussion of Nathaniel Witherell Business and Financial Model

The Committee discussed changes in the market for senior services, including possible reductions in physical therapist and occupational therapist services. Ms. Weissler presented Waveny’s Form 990, which shows an increase in homecare revenue.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Krumeich, seconded by Ms. Weissler, the Committee voted 4 to 0 to encourage The Nathaniel Witherell (TNW) Board of Directors to pursue discussions on strategic partnerships, with the request that TNW consult with TOG Purchasing and Law Departments to inform outreach and ensure compliance with all applicable policies.

3. Items for Future Committee Meetings

The Committee discussed options for structuring its findings and report.

Ms. Weissler stated that she is working to reflect revenue and operating expenses accurately and transparently. STEAP grants need to be reflected off-balance sheet.

The Committee will endeavor to have a draft to share at its December 2nd meeting.
The next scheduled meetings are: November 18th at 8:30 A.M. in the Evaristo Conference Room; December 2nd at 8:30 A.M.; and December 16th at 8:30 A.M. The Committee agreed to invite Mr. David Ormsby, former TNW Board Chair, and Scott Neff to discuss the role of the Friends of TNW and their labor costs, and possible future fundraising scenarios, including endowments and legacy donations.

4. Adjournment

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee voted 4 to 0 to adjourn the meeting at 10:24 A.M.

Jill Oberlander, Recording Secretary

Arthur D. Norton, Chairman