

Frog Hollow

Neighborhood Revitalization Zone

June 18, 2019 Minutes

Presented by Cary Wheaton

Attendees: Steve Balcanoff, MaryLee Morrison, Janice Castle, Cary Wheaton, Joe Barber, Marion Griffin, Lee McLean-Houle, Aaron Gill, Melvyn Colon, Dan Kiernan, Fernando Betancourt, Lt. O. Santiago, Officer Pino, Jesus Lopez, Elias Medina, Mark Jenkins, Douglas Ovian, Robin Deutsch, Ron Peasley, Sandra Bernstein, Jim Horan, Farhana Arif, Carey Shea, Paige Berschet, Julie Ann Robinson

Meeting convened at 5:40 by Joe Barber, Aaron Gill arriving at 5:50

May minutes approved

Hartford Police Department: First homicide of the year occurred in South Green. Occurred in apartment, suspect in custody. Crime is down 31% city wide, 39% in Frog Hollow. Most part one crimes are larcenies. Discussed increase in fireworks being put off at night. With new police recruits, patrols for incidents like this can be stepped up. Fernando reported what appears to be an after-hours club at 181 Oak Street/454 Park Street. Police will investigate it, Janice will look into licensing

Officer Pino's cellphone # (959) 282-2158

Hartford Fire Department:

Hartford Circus Fire 75th Anniversary Remembrance Ceremony: July 6th, 2:30, 350 Barbour Street (rear)

Love Your Block: Volunteer Days for projects:

Saturday, June 29th: 10 Wolcott Street; 769 Park Street

Sunday, June 30th: 155 Hungerford Street

Sunday July 7th: 311 Capitol Avenue

Email for details, exact times: loveyourblock@hartford.gov

Love Your Block hiring new Americorps Vistas for next year. Apply at my.americorps.gov

Janice Castle/City of Hartford:

Contact Janice if you need a resident guide

2019 State of Our Youth Town Hall: Monday June 24 ,5:30pm at Hartford Stage

Informational Meeting about proposed Hartford Hilton Hotel Loan: July 17, 6:00 Hartford Library, 500 Main Street, Classroom 140 or July 24, 6:00 at Women's League 1695 Main Street

Contact 311 if you know of a senior or disabled homeowner needing Youth Corps assistance in mowing, yard work, snow removal

Farmers Markets and Free Summer Meals have begun as well. Contact 311

Hartford Community Court:

Atty Doug Ovian introduced himself and the Court to the NRZ. Court is at 80 Washington Street. It is a human scale, community payback and procedural justice court. Fines are not collected, instead a community service plan is applied. These are managed by partner Community Partners in Action, who also run the Reentry Welcome Center at the back of City Hall.

Douglas.ovian@jud.ct.gov

LISC:

Introducing the Building for Health Campaign. Building owners can get help in determining repairs needed in their buildings which impact health using the OneTouch referral system. One Touch works with weatherization, health, home visiting, housing, and repair programs to increase access to healthy and energy efficient services. Owner does not need to occupy building and building of different sizes qualify. Contact Marcus Smith at Msmith06@connecticutchildrens.org or (860) 837-6236

SINA:

Marion Griffin was awarded a Community Service Award at SINA's ceremony.

Opportunity Zones/Neighborhood Investment Guidelines:

Melvyn re introduced these guidelines in anticipation of potential high net worth individuals looking to fund projects in Frog Hollow. Frog Hollow has 4 census tracks that could attract investors. This is a proactive move to let investors know that they need to consider community desires and concerns when investing. SINA Board adopted in March. Asking NRZ to adopt as well. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion about making sure this process of applying community wishes becomes part of our regular process when giving our input to all development projects.

Hartford 2000:

Marion reported that there was an NRZ leaders meeting on May 30th. Discussed creating a unified, codified way for NRZ's to be looking at development projects. There was a discussion of common issues shared across communities. Top issues were litter, blight, petty crime, resident engagement and outreach. One immediate action decided on was to craft a letter to national chains such as CVS and Walgreen who have stores in the city but do not apply their regular standards of upkeep, operations, cleanliness at these sites, disrespecting local communities. Templates for these letters can be shared and community members can send multiple letters, ccing local and state officials.

A discussion of boundaries regarding the defunct South Green NRZ commenced. Issue is with mapping of the communities. Discussion is ongoing

Annual Meeting of Hartford 2000: 6/20 5:30 CREC, 111 Charter Oak

Internet Access:

Marion brought up concern about unequal internet access across city and what can be done. Janice suggested first step is contacting Development Services who should have mapping of this

By Laws:

Larger discussion postponed to next meeting when Graciela can be present. Desire is to look at committee membership, how do we invite new members and reach out to old members who have not attended for

years? Membership needs to be 50% plus 1 community members. We need to understand our current make up so that we can position ourselves to build the NRZ, creating a process for adding and removing members.

Created a Membership & Bylaws group:

Paige, MaryLee, Graciela, Steve, Lee, Aaron (to be cc'd)

Subcommittee:

There was a job fair today at Billings Forge

Website:

Joe, Carolina, and Carlos from TrinFo are meeting to sketch out exactly what is needed for regular updates. Please visit the site at [FHNZRZ, com](http://FHNZRZ.com)

Next Meeting:

Mark Jenkins requested to be put on Agenda to discuss the drug death crisis in our community, particularly involving crack. Placed on Agenda

Adjoined meeting at 7:40