

# Frog Hollow

Neighborhood Revitalization Zone

## January 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Present: Steve Balcanoff, MaryLee Morrison, Steven Pino, Lt. Santiago, Arianna Basche, Janice Castle, Cary Wheaton, Dan Kiernan, Ron Peasle, Angela King, Miguel Maldonado, Joe Barber, Steve Yenkie, Walter Veselka, Marion Griffin, Julie Ann Robinson, Paige Berschet, Madeleyne T., Mary Fattouh, Montanik Dunn, Orlandus Lane, Felisha Graves, John Rodriguez, Chris Brown, Christiane Pimentel, Councilman John Gale, Jose Figueroa

Aaron Gill is absent due to illness. Joe Barber chairing the meeting

### December minutes approved

**Hartford Police Department:** Miguel Maldonado introduced our new Frog Hollow CSO, Steven Pino. Contact info: (860) 757-4347, [Steven.Pino@hartford.gov](mailto:Steven.Pino@hartford.gov)

Officer Pino has been with the HPD for 4 years, working on the walking beat on Park Street most recently. Focus: illegal dumping, stop sign running, stolen license plates, recent robbery uptick on Capitol Ave. Looking at camera there that is connected to system. Lt. Santiago reports area crime down over 40% from last year, despite understaffing

**Hartford Fire Department:** Welcome to cadet. Engines 1 and 8 had more than 9,000 calls in 2018, most calls are medical. Encouraging calling HFD for smoke alarms in building 6 or under units

**City of Hartford:** Janice Castle

Presented 2018 Hartford 311 Report. Frog Hollow had highest volume of calls for service in 2018 at 923. Next Town Hall: 2018 year in review with Mayor Bronin. January 29<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM University of Hartford-Mort and Irma Handel Performing Arts

**Department of Public Works:** Walter Veselka. Welcome, he has been new head for 2 months. Looking at illegal bulk waste, stepping up enforcement. Surveying pavement cuts and patches, looking to enforce repair requirements with utilities making repairs. Pothole patching is difficult in winter because department only has cold patch ability. Possibility of teaming with another agency to purchase hot patch machine. Recycling difficulty due to solid waste facility being out of operation. They report hoping to get one turbine up and operational shortly. Discussed the issue with recycling as the Chinese market has collapsed.

Councilman John Gale reported on Simple Recycling, a company appearing before the Council to pitch the city on fabric recycling. No cost to city, instead a \$40 per ton fee paid to Hartford. Trucks pick up curbside and can track pickups using tablets. Existing garbage collectors have the tablets, mark the address to pick up the pink bags. Asking to add a bulky waste button to the tablets for DPW. Company operates in 14 other towns and will hopefully start here this year.

**Love Your Block:** Paige Berschet and Julie Ann Robinson

Presented results of survey. Higher preference for projects that focus on vacant lots. Discussed application process for \$1,000 grants. Available on line at <http://tinyurl.com/LYBHartfordApp>

Deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup>. Brainstormed outreach ideas. Aaron Gill and Marion Griffin will represent the NRZ on the selection committee.

**Hartford 2000:** Marion Griffin

Next meeting January 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 79 Van Block Avenue. They are involved in 2-year transformational process, including new leadership, refocused mission, recruitment of new board members, renewing community relationships, expanding strategic partnerships, new branding.

**Other Business:**

Hartford Foundation for Public Giving has a new small business program for companies with at least \$500,000 in yearly revenue, open at least 2 years but less than 10 years. Program starts in March

Discussion of MIRA (Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority) request to reopen landfill in North End because of the turbine failure. Mayor and Council opposes. NRZ voted yes to send a letter of support of opposition

**Mutual Housing:** Steve Yanke

Looking on input for use of the ground floor space at 897, 901 Park Street. Looking at providing support services such as job counseling, budgeting, regaining credit classes, housing/social services referrals. Have about 6 months to decide. Feel free to email Steve at [syenke@mutualhousing.org](mailto:syenke@mutualhousing.org)

**Youth Service Corp** members introduced. Program engages city youth in paid employment experiences. Initiative of Mayor who raised about 2 million dollars for program serving 16 – 24-year old's. Work with city, elderly residents, and nonprofits. Can contact Janice Castle if you have need/project.

**Wheeler Clinic:** Full Health Center at 43 Woodland Street. Walk In clinic which turns no one away with same day treatment. Will return to NRZ with full presentation.

Adjourned 8:10

Minutes presented by Cary Wheaton