

Open Space and Land Acquisition Committee
Thursday, April 7th, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes
3:30 PM Town Council Chambers, Town Hall of Southington, CT

Members Present: All regular members were present with the exception of Mr. Labieniec and Miss Sica. Staff Present: Garry Brumback (Member) Town Manager, Mark Sciota, Town Attorney/Deputy Town Manager and David Lavalley, Environmental Planner.

Chairman Berkmoes called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

The first order of business was to approve the minutes of January 20th, 2011. Commissioner Miceli made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Urillo with all in favor. The item up for action was approval of the Community Garden documents. Discussion of how and if the rules should apply to the East Street garden resulted in a consensus that a one-year stay for the East Street garden excluding it from the rules, specifically the lottery for bed assignment, shall apply. In the interim, efforts should be made to bring the site into compliance with the rules to be adopted by this Committee for the Academy Street site. Discussion of the water service to the site was prompted by Commissioner Miceli. Staff noted that there has been positive feedback from Water Department representatives showing a willingness to provide service to the site. An assessment for water usage over and above a certain amount could be made for users of the Garden to defray the cost of total volume served. Reference to parking availability was made; there is a 2-hour limit to parking along Academy St. during the day and the municipal lot is available evenings and on weekends. There is no regulation regarding a table of required parking associated with open space parcels. A motion was made by Commissioner Brumback to accept two modifications to the current documents; an assessment on water usage above a certain volume may be made to garden participants and a 1-yr. grace period for the East Street Garden's lottery participation shall be granted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Miceli with all in favor. The Chairman has determined that Mr. Ron Odett who currently runs the East Street Garden will be asked to join the Open Space Sub-Committee to facilitate the transition of incorporating that garden into the new guidelines being proposed. A second site walk of town open space will take place during a Special Meeting of the Committee on June 11th at 10:00 am at the Griffin Open Space Parcel on Lanning Street adjacent to 469 Laning Street. The Commission is continuing their effort to walk the larger open space parcels to bring more attention to it's accessible and numerable holdings.

The committee entered into Executive Session including Mr. Lavalley and Mr. Sciota at 4:10 PM upon a motion by Commissioner Borowy and second by Dr. Urillo with all in favor. The Commission adjourned Executive Session at 4:20 PM upon a motion by Commissioner Brumback and second by Commissioner Urillo with all in favor. The regular meeting adjourned at 4:22 PM upon a motion by Commissioner Brumback and second by Commissioner Urillo with all in favor.