

Southington Ordinance Review Committee
Minutes

Meeting Date: April 26, 2012

Attending: Deputy Town Manager/Town Attorney, Mark Sciota, Councilman Chris Palmieri, Councilman Al Natelli, Councilwoman Cheryl Lounsbury,

Public: Councilwoman Dawn Miceli, Mark White, President Calendar House Membership Association, Cliff Snow Board Member, Calendar House Membership Association

- Meeting convened at 5 p.m.
Public Communication:
 1. Mark White presented a letter from the Calendar House Membership Association indicating their strong support for having the Calendar House Executive Director report directly to the town manager and the Calendar House staff report to the Executive Director. As the system currently stands, with personnel authority residing with the Senior Commission, the Association believes that the Town Manager and Executive Director have all the responsibility and none of the needed authority. Further, Senior Commission members do not use the Calendar House services or participate in Calendar House activities on a daily or weekly basis and are unaware of the day to day issues, needs and successes of the organization. Finally, the Association believes that monthly meetings of the Commission do not lend itself to swift, informed decision making needed for this organization.
 2. Cliff Snow suggested that the Commission include at least some members of the Calendar House Membership Association. The group discussed that an immediate possibility might be having the Town Council Chair appoint a member of the Association to the Commission as his replacement.
- Blight Ordinance
The Blight Ordinance, as rewritten by the Town Attorney, was reviewed by the committee. After careful review and much discussion, it was suggested that the Ordinance be edited to include stronger language for repeated violators.
- The committee reviewed the updated fee schedule prepared by the Town Attorney and made several suggestions regarding fees
- The Chair requested that we ask the Town Council to schedule a public hearing on the Blight Ordinance, The Senior Citizen Commission Ordinance and the Dog Ordinance as quickly as possible.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:15

Next meeting – May 24, 2012 @ 5:00 p.m., lower level conference room. Chapters 9, 10, 11 and 12 will be reviewed

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Lounsbury, Chair

Calendar House Membership Association
388 Pleasant St
Southington, CT 06489

April 26, 2012

Ordinance Review Committee
Ms Cheryl Lounsbury,
175-11 Berlin Avenue
Southington, CT 06489

Dear Ms Lounsbury,

Re: Senior Citizens' Commission

The Calendar House Membership Association (CHMA) Board of Directors and Membership wishes to advise you of its support for the Ordinance Review Committee's proposal to have the Calendar House Management report directly to the Town Manager.

Principals of effective management mandate that the manager of any organization must have two parameters of leadership; authority and responsibility. Currently our Executive Director, Robert Verderame, and our Town Manager, Garry Brumback, possess only the responsibility to effectively manage the day-to-day activities of our senior center. According to the current ordinance, sole power and authority rests only with Senior Citizens' Commission. This results in the executive director and town manager holding all of the responsibility for the effective management of the center, yet none of the power to do so.

The Calendar House Membership Association (CHMA) is of the opinion that it would be appropriate at this time to also modify section 2-121 of the Ordinance to involve greater representation of actual participating members of Calendar House in the new Advisory Board. The current, politically appointed, members of the Senior Citizen's Commission are seldom seen at Calendar House during normal operating hours and are consequently unknown to most of the Membership. This has the effect of minimizing effective feedback to that governing body.

While not wishing to denigrate the achievements of the current Commission, it is evident that the current monthly meetings do not lend themselves to the swift, informed, decision making necessary in dynamic management. This is further worsened lately by attempts to micromanage certain issues involving transportation and staffing. Again, the town manager and the executive director have all of the responsibility to accomplish results with no direct authority to do so.

The Membership Association strongly recommends that a way be found to involve more active Calendar House members in the Advisory Committee, by either seconding Members selected by the CHMA Board of Directors, or by having the CHMA Board assume the Advisory Board duties.

The Calendar House Membership Association involves the complete Calendar House Membership and has a democratically elected Board of Directors managed under a set of By Laws similar in many respects to the method of Southington's Town Government.

The above proposal was discussed and unanimously approved by a meeting of the CHMA Board of Directors on the morning of April 26th and agreed by a majority vote at an open membership meeting held in the afternoon of April 26th.

Sincerely



Peter W. Freeman President Calendar House Membership Association
Manager - Computer Learning Center
Instructor - Computer Learning Center



C. Mark White Vice President - Calendar House Membership Association
Assistant Manager - Computer Learning center
Instructor - Computer Learning Center
Webmaster -



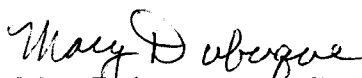
John Sudol Secretary - Calendar House Membership Association
Income Tax advisory Services at Calendar House



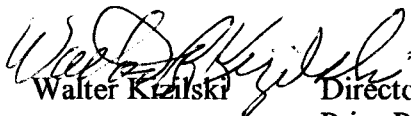
Mary Robarge Treasurer - Calendar House Membership Association
Income Tax advisory Services at Calendar House
Assistant Instructor - Computer Learning Center



Elsie Walicki Assistant Treasurer - Calendar House Membership Association
Treasurer - Calender House Computer Learning Center



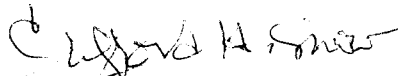
Mary Dubuque Corresponding Secretary - Calendar House Membership Association
Instructor - Computer Learning Center



Walter Krzinski Director -- Calendar House Membership Association
Prior President - Calendar House Membership Association



Barbara Rosenbaum Director -- Calendar House Membership Association



Clifford Snow Director -- Calendar House Membership Association
Prior President - Calendar House Membership Association

Copies to Garry Brumback - Town manager
Edward S. Pocock, III,
Christopher J. Palmieri
Robert Verderame, Executive Director, Calendar House