



20<sup>th</sup>

Anniversary

# AHNA

HARTFORD  
★ HAS IT

Asylum Hill Neighborhood Association  
A Neighborhood NRZ

## AHNA General Meeting Minutes ~ May 7, 2018

**Board Members Present:** Yvonne Matthews, Paul O'Mara, Carol Padberg, Nancy Rion, Esther Gonzalez-Torres, George Annan-Kingsley, Jackie McKinney, Ken Johnson, Moureen Bish

**Board Members Absent:** Louisa Barton Duguay, Chris Montross, Mark McKinney, Nancy Caddigan, Dean Amadon, Michelle McFarland

**Board Members;**

Yvonne Matthews

*Chair*

Paul O'Mara

*Vice Chair*

Nancy Rion

*Secretary*

Jackie McKinney

*Sergeant-at-Arms*

Janice Castle

*Mayor's Office*

Dean Amadon

Georges Annan-

Kingsley

Louisa Barton

Duguay

Nancy Caddigan

Moureen Bish

Esther Gonzalez-

Torres

Ken Johnson

Chris Montross

Michelle McFarland

Marcus McKinney

Carol Padberg

**AHNA Members & Staff Present:** Ofc. Sid Palmieri, Lt. Martin Cunningham, Lt. Jesus Lopez, Andrene Bent-Jarvis, Barbara Morton, Claire Bergin, Rev. Mia Douglas, Michael Coloum, David Corrigan, Joe Bumpers, Mary Ellen Shuckerow, Lauren Fair, Cathy Zeiner, Jennifer Cassidy, Barbara Robbins, Mike McGarry, Frank Hagaman, Corendis Dawson-Bonner, Marian Leist, Keturah Kinch and Bernie Michel,

**Visitors:** Sarah Morin, Johnston Cheong, Gwendolyn Cheong, Amanda Trothier, Larisa Kottke, Jennifer Stephens, Sally Guy, Tieasha Gayle, John Wagner, Kay Small, Elizabeth Deiblen, Larry Deutsch, Mary Bastian, Rosette Howard

The meeting was called to order by Yvonne Matthews at 6:15. More than 45 participants introduced themselves. Yvonne recognized Moureen Bish for her extensive involvement in the community and her work on the AHNA Board.

**Police Report:** Asylum Hill's CSO, Sid Palmieri, 860-305-7675, continues to issue tickets for loitering, panhandling, and public drinking. He mentioned that 271 Farmington, a former Dunkin Donuts, will open in 2 months as Hartford Fry. The manager of 198 S. Marshall is hiring 24 hour security staff. Sid managed to dissuade high school students from hanging out at 117 S. Marshall St. Lt. Martin Cunningham, 860-719-1130, Lieutenant Commander North District, reported that schools are out June 13. ATVs continue to be a challenge; of the 10 adults arrested recently, 8 were from out of state.

Hartford Police Chief David Rosado, 860-757-4020, shared his priorities as the new police chief:

- Increase staff with at least 50% people of color
- Create a Community Response Unit that includes 5 officers designated to work together to address specific problems
- Increase use of technology
  - 750 cameras across the city
  - body cameras for all police
  - drones – the chief is working with the ACLU to protect the privacy of residents

In addition, the Chief is working with the Community Court to pilot a program called Hartford Alternative to Arrest, to provide services and help for people who commit a minor crime and need basic help such as food, shelter, a path to a job, etc.

In response to questions, Chief Rosado said all officers have received implicit bias training. He described the Re-entry Program in which help will be offered to people just released from prison. The program, housed at City Hall, hopes to help 150 of the 1000 people who will be released in Hartford this year. Chief Rosado said he plans to train all officers to be CSO's.

814 Asylum Ave  
Hartford 06105

**Fire Department Report:** Lieutenant Jesus Lopez, 860-757-4523, said that all the fire statistics are available on line at the Department's website.

The April minutes were approved.

**Finance Report:** Paul reported:

April 1 balance:	\$ 19,661
Expenses:	\$ 1,956
Contributions	\$ 600 from the Boys and Girls Club
April 30 balance:	\$ 18,304

In addition, Paul thanked the Asylum Hill Congregational Church for its recent donation of \$15,000 to AHNA, as well as the Aetna who donated \$2,500.

Yvonne noted that with these additional donations, AHNA will seek a part-time Executive Director. As her term is concluding, the Board is also seeking a volunteer to be Chair of the AHNA Board.

**Voices from the Neighborhood:**

- Councilman Larry Deutsch encouraged residents concerned about branch library closings to attend Council meetings and speak up about their concerns
- Tieasha Gayle, community organizer and resident of S. Marshall St, shared a story about successfully getting a response from the city to deal with flooding on S. Marshall.
- CRT provides free groceries for families

**Report from the City – Andrene Bent-Jarvis:**

- May 23 – Mayor Bronin will host a Town Hall Meeting at 6 PM at Keney Park
- May 17 – Battle of the Badges, a basketball fundraiser – 6:30, 280 Huyshope Ave.
- Extended leaf collection
- See potholes? – call 311

**I-84 Update:** Michael reported that the advisory committee meeting will meet in August. Questions were asked about the proposed Laurel Street ramp that would eliminate Knox Gardens. Michael responded that the City owns the land and that residents should express their concerns to the City. Participants agreed that the July AHNA meeting should focus on the impact of the I-84 proposal on the Asylum Hill neighborhood.

**Upcoming Events:**

- May 10 – Urban League Career Fair, 10-2 at Dunkin Donuts Park
- May 12 – HARC Walk-a-thon at Dunkin Donuts Park
- George will be painting a mural at Hartford Public High School this summer
- LGH Quest Program is focused on voting and registering residents
- May 23 – Jazz Quartet in Liam McGee Memorial Park at noon – free
- June 6 – Brass Quintet in Liam McGee Memorial Park at noon – free
- June 7 – October 25 Fresh Express shuttle to Farmers' Market on Thursdays
- June 9-17 – Hartford Blooms
- May 16 – October 10 Walking tours of Asylum Hill neighborhood
- July 23-27 – Salvation Army sponsors overnight camp for 8-12 year olds
- June – TBD – Clean up Sigourney Park

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50.