

**Town of Windham**  
**Public Safety, Public Works, Environment, Culture and Recreation Committee**  
**Wednesday, March 26, 2014 - 7:00 pm**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**1. Call to order**

Chairman Charles Krich called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Members Present: Charles Krich, James Finger, Lorraine McDevitt and Michael Lessard.

Members Absent: Charlotte Patros

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Krich led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Citizens and Delegations**

Bill Powers, Scotland Road, Windham, spoke regarding signage by Windham Center School. He read part of a letter that he submitted to the Chronicle back in December. Mr. Powers informed the committee members that he contacted the Board of Education, State and other local officials regarding the signs. He requested that AED's modules be available in Spanish.

Amy Vas Nunes, 15 Henry Place, North Windham, spoke as a member of the Dog Association in Town. Amy stated that she requested to be on the agenda tonight and the request was denied. She informed the committee that a petition was circulated and 60 signatures were collected. Ms. Nunes was concerned when Ernie informed her that the dog park was a dead issue, especially because her association has been meeting with Scott and Tara. She asked Chairman Krich how that decision on the dog park was made.

Bernie D'Auteuil, 168 Walnut Street, Willimantic, spoke regarding the dispatch center. He requested that the Town come together and make decisions regarding the dispatch as soon as possible because we need our dispatch center to run properly.

Thomas DeVivo, 110 Bolivia Street, Willimantic, spoke regarding the A- the Willimantic Police Department received regarding an FOI request. He said that we need to work better next time so we can get an A.

Lloyd Niles spoke regarding the HeartSafe Committee. He hopes the committee brings their recommendation back to the full Council and gets the whole program going.

James Flores stated that Amy is very disappointed and informed the committee that he is low income. He spoke regarding an email he sent requesting the dog park issue to be placed on the agenda and he was ignored. He stated that he is not only Latino and Black he is a council member just like everyone else. Mr. Flores mentioned that he will be making a motion to add the issue on the agenda tonight.

Annie Clark, 29 Natchaug Street, Willimantic, informed the committee that there is a great deal of interest in town in a really nice dog park.

Peter Haddad, 90 Lebanon Avenue, Willimantic, stated that he circulated a petition against the dog park on Young Street. They are not against the dog park but would like to see it somewhere else in Town.

**4. Town Council Committee Member Comments**

Michael Lessard stated that he does not appreciate when people bring race or low income issues up in a meeting. He also mentioned that he would like to see the HeartSafe issue move forward to the Town.

James Flores stated that he will continue to make his statement about low income jobs and minorities because the Town of Windham budget does not support his community.

Charles Krich mentioned that the HeartSafe appointment is taking a little time but Dawn Niles name will move forward to the full Council for appointment as a volunteer. He also stated that the Town has not designated a location for the dog park yet, but it is part of the CIP plan and it will be assessed once the Town is ready to build it. Mr. Krich hopes the group that is interested straightens out because it seems to have too much drama right now. He hopes the group gets it together before we are ready to build the park.

Lorraine McDevitt stated that the dog park is in the Town's CIP long term plan. She is really angry that the issue continues to be discussed when the Town doesn't even have a plan to build the park. She suggests that the issue be brought up when the Town is ready to move forward with a dog park.

**5. Approval of Minutes from Meeting on February 26, 2014**

Lorraine McDevitt MOVED, Michael Lessard seconded, to adopt the meeting minutes. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**6. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Dispatch**

Lorraine McDevitt informed the committee that they met and discussed the individual that was offered the job as the administrator. Mrs. McDevitt stated that she will have more concrete information on the administrator and contract in the next couple of weeks and hopes people listen to fewer rumors.

Lloyd Niles stated that he hopes to present an agreement in the next 3 to 4 weeks.

James Flores apologized for his behavior during the meeting.

**7. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Award of Contract to Install Fencing at Recreation Park**

Charles Krich MOVED, Lorraine McDevitt seconded, to award the contract to Cargen Fence. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**8. Discussion and Possible Action to Amend Paving Schedule as Requested by Water Department.**

Lorraine McDevitt MOVED, Michael Lessard seconded, to amend the paving schedule as requested by the Water Department and move up the pavement of Holbrook Avenue to the summer of 2014. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**9. Update on Bike Path Project**

Scott Clairmont informed the committee that Joe Gardner will give them an update next month.

**MOTION:** James Flores MOVED, Michael Lessard seconded, to add to the agenda discussion on the dog park. All in favor except Charles Krich who opposed.

A lengthy discussion took place with Mr. Flores. He explained that the Dog Association has been meeting for months and a group should be formed and an agreement should be put in place. Scott Clairmont gave a quick update on the dog park based on the past meetings with the Dog Association and Tara Risley.

James Flores MOVED, to accept Shelley Kelley and Amy Vas Nunes as members of the dog park and work as advisors. No one seconded it. Mr. Flores withdrew the motion.

**10. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Lighting for Memorial Park**

Lorraine McDevitt MOVED, Michael Lessard seconded, to place the florescent lights from the Bridge of Flowers at Memorial Park. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**11. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Signage by School**

No discussion took place.

**12. Citizens and Delegations**

James Flores apologized for his behavior but he hopes Chairman Krich apologizes to the two ladies for his insulting language.

**13. Adjournment**

Lorraine McDevitt MOVED, Michael Lessard seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Submitted By:**

**Neida I. Rosado**

**Executive Administrator**