

Minutes of the Windham Town Council Special Budget Meeting

Windham Town Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Tuesday, March 15, 2016 - 7:00 P.M.



1. Call to Order.

Mayor Eldridge called the Windham Town Council Special Budget Meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Town Council members present: Mayor Ernest S. Eldridge, Tony Fantoli, Tom DeVivo, Lorraine McDevitt, Dennis O'Brien, Mike Lessard, James Flores, Nectalis Martinez, Lynne Ide, Dawn Niles and Charles Krich

Executive Administrator Neida Rosado, Personnel Director Paul Hongo and Finance Accounting Supervisor Karen Williams were also in attendance.

Town Manager Neal Beets was also in attendance.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Eldridge led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Citizens and Delegations: Public Comment.

Tom DeVivo apologized to the Town Council, the community and Councilmember Flores for his words of frustration at the last Council meeting. He noted he and Councilmember Flores want the best for the community.

James Flores also apologized to the Town Council, the community and Councilmember DeVivo for his frustrations at the last Council meeting. He noted he and Councilmember DeVivo will work together for the good of the community.

Jamie Eves, Executive Director of the Windham Textile and History Museum provided the Town Council with a Building-Related Expense sheet from 2011-2015 that showed expenses not funded by the Town of Windham. (See Attachment A) He also referred to an article in the newspaper that had incorrect information and he provided the correct information. Mr. Eves also spoke about the short term lease with the Town, the inability to apply for grants and the money that was raised through fundraisers.

Bev York, Educational Director of the Windham Textile and History Museum, showed a graph and explained the visitor count. She read a list of the many schools that visit the Museum. (See Attachment B) Ms. York also read a letter from a grandparent thanking the Museum for the "Irish for the Day" kids club event attended by her grandchild.

Herbert Bush spoke on behalf of the Whitewater Park Partnership and supports the budget item for the fence along Riverside Drive that borders their property.

John French spoke in support of the Windham Textile and History Museum. He also noted he would like to be involved in re-negotiating the lease between the Town and the Museum.

Candace Powers, 355 Scotland Road Windham and volunteer for the Windham Textile and History Museum spoke in support of the Museum. She also listed some of the many duties done by volunteers and asked the Council to restore the funding for the Museum.

Bill Powers, 355 Scotland Road Windham and volunteer for the Windham Textile and History Museum spoke in support of the Museum. Mr. Powers read a statement explaining the importance the Museum has for students and the community. (See Attachment C) He also urged the Council to support the Windham Textile and History Museum.

Andrew Gutt, 560 Main Street Willimantic and owner of Cafemantic and Events Venue at 750 Main Street spoke in support of the fencing on Riverside Drive and adding trash receptacles on Main Street which are two budget items in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Sue Humes, Lewiston Avenue, Willimantic, noted she is a member of the Windham Textile and History Museum and Administrator at the Card Home. She spoke in support of the Museum and explained the involvement the Card Home residents have with the Museum.

Faith Kenton, North Street Willimantic and Board Member on the Windham Textile and History Museum provided the Town Council with a membership packet that was sent to 1200 people. She also explained the contents of the packet. (See Attachment D)

4. Comment by Councilmembers.

James Flores spoke in support of the Windham Textile and History Museum and gave an example of a school bus carrying 40 students asking for directions to the Museum and spending money in our Town by stopping to eat at McDonald's. Mr. Flores also spoke about the budget and noted he was going to make a motion to recommend cutting 5% from all Department Heads including the Town Manager and take the cars away as well.

Tom DeVivo noted tomorrow night DECD Commissioner Christine Smith will be at the Windham Club at 4:00 P.M. and hopefully the Town could get funding for streetscapes and other improvements.

5. Approval of Town Council Minutes:

a. Special Budget Meeting of March 1, 2016

Flores MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2016 Special Budget meeting. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Special Budget Meeting of March 8, 2016.

DeVivo MOVED, Idet seconded, to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2016 Special Budget meeting. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Discuss and possibly act on the nomination of Dawn Niles by the Democratic Town Committee to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Councilmember Charlotte Patros. Swearing-in ceremony.

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to appoint Dawn Niles to the Windham Town Council to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Councilmember Charlotte Patros. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councilmember O'Brien swore in Dawn Niles to the Windham Town Council.

7. Discuss and possibly approve the following Resolutions relating to the Town's CDBG Small Cities Program:

a. Resolution approving an application to the State of Connecticut for \$800,000 to renovate public housing under the Small Cities Community Development Program and to execute an Assistance Agreement, as recommended by Town Staff.

Lessard MOVED, Flores seconded, to waive the reading of the Resolution. All were in favor except Krich who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

Lessard MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to adopt Resolution #2678. All were in favor except Flores who abstained.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

WHEREAS, Federal monies are available under the Connecticut Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program, administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Housing pursuant to Public Law 93-383, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127c, and Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Housing is authorized to disburse such Federal monies to local municipalities; and,

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Windham make application to the State for \$800,000.00 in order to undertake a Small Cities Community Development Program and to execute an Assistance Agreement therefore, should one be offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Windham Town Council:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for State Assistance imposed by Part VI of Chapter 130 of The Connecticut General Statutes; and,
2. That the filing of an application by the Town of Windham in an amount not to exceed \$800,000.00 is hereby approved, and that the Town Manager of the Town of Windham is hereby authorized and directed to file such Application with the Commissioner of the Department of Housing, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required by the Commissioner, to execute an Assistance Agreement

with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an Agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Windham.

MOTION PASSED

- b. **Resolution approving the Town of Windham's Fair Housing Program, as recommended by Town Staff.**

DeVivo MOVED, Flores seconded, to waive the reading of the Resolution. All were in favor except Krich who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

O'Brien MOVED, Niles seconded, to adopt Resolution #2679. All were in favor.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

Whereas, All persons are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

Whereas, Federal fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

Whereas, Connecticut fair housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and home ownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

Whereas, The Town of Windham is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Town of Windham hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase, obtain financing and enjoy all other housing-related services of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis as provided by state and federal law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Chief Executive Officer of the Town of Windham or his/her designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the Town of Windham and for advising such person of the right to file a complaint with the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or to seek assistance from the CT Fair Housing Center, legal services, or other fair housing organizations to protect his or her right to equal housing opportunities.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

- c. **Resolution approving the Town of Windham's Program Income Plan, as recommended by Town staff.**

McDevitt read the Resolution and moved for its adoption.

McDevitt MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to adopt Resolution #2680. All were in favor.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

WHEREAS, Program Income is defined in federal regulation at 24 CFR 570.489 (e) which specify that program income is the gross income received by the jurisdiction that has been directly generated from the use of Community Development Block Grant Program.

WHEREAS, Examples of program income include: payments of principal and interest on housing rehabilitation loans made using Community Development Block Grant funds; interest earned on program income pending its disposition, and interest earned on funds that have been placed in a revolving loan account;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council that the following Program Income Plan is hereby approved and further authorizes, Town Manager Neal J. Beets, to sign such document.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

8. **Discuss and possibly approve a Resolution required by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to implement the \$120,000 state grant to analyze the contamination at the Knight's Oil site at 1248 Main Street and to recommend remediation options.**

DeVivo MOVED, Flores seconded, to waive the reading of the Resolution. All were in favor except Krich who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

Martinez MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to adopt Resolution #2681. All were in favor.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council THAT

WHEREAS, pursuant to **CGS Sec. 32-763**, the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the **Town of Windham, Connecticut** make an application to the **State of Connecticut** for **\$120,000.00** in order to undertake the **1248 Main Street Brownfields Assessment Project** and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Town of Windham Town Council:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by

CGS Sec. 32-763; and

2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by the **Town of Windham, Connecticut** in an amount not to exceed **\$120,000.00** is hereby approved and that **Town Manager, Neal J. Beets** is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Windham, Connecticut.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

9. **Discuss and adopt the Town Council's recommended operating budget and capital budget for Town General Government for FY 16-17.**

Town Manager Beets reviewed the process of the previous budget meetings. He explained the Board of Assessment Appeals had reviewed and heard appeals on the grand list and he noted there was a slight reduction to the grand list which results in a minor adjustment to the budget. Mr. Beets suggested the Town Council proceed by making motions on each separate item and noted any changes will be made accordingly. He also stated a motion should be made on the Operating Budget as well as the Capital Budget as amended.

DeVivo MOVED, Niles seconded, to increase line item 10544290-58259 by \$5,000 for WRTD Fixed Route back to the original budget request. All were in favor except Fantoli who opposed and O'Brien and Flores who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

DeVivo MOVED, Ide seconded, to reduce line item 10544290-58263 by \$5,000 for WRCC – Youth Services Bureau. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

DeVivo MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to increase line item 10544290-58276 by 7,500 for the Windham Textile Museum back to the original request. All were in favor except Fantoli, Krich and Ide. MOTION PASSED.

Lessard MOVED, Flores seconded, to restore the bilingual position in the amount of \$28,380 in the Human Services payroll budget and to include in the job description the person must develop a plan to outreach to the Latino community. All were in favor except DeVivo, Fantoli, Eldridge, Krich, O'Brien, Niles and Ide. MOTION FAILED.

Lessard MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to increase line item 10541350-57330 from zero to \$500 to include a currency counter in the Tax Collector's budget. Lessard was in favor and all others opposed. MOTION FAILED.

Krich MOVED, Niles seconded, to reduce line item 10541070-58100 Professional affiliations to \$40,000 and that we do not renew our membership in COST. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Flores MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to increase line item 10544010-51510 in the Human Services regular payroll to \$14,190 for a bilingual position at the Senior Center effective January 2017 with a job description to include developing an outreach and engagement plan for the Latino community. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Krich MOVED, Niles seconded, to freeze the salaries of all management non union employees to their current salaries.

DeVivo MOVED, O'Brien seconded, to table the item. DeVivo, Eldridge and Ide were in favor with all others opposed. MOTION FAILED.

Krich MOVED, Niles seconded, to freeze the salaries of all management non union employees on the Class 1 non union department head list at their current salaries. All were in favor except O'Brien, Eldridge and Lessard. MOTION PASSED.

Martinez MOVED, Ide seconded, to reduce line item 10598000-58890 Contingency, by \$30,000 from \$130,000 to \$100,000. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (Councilmember Flores was out of the room and did not vote)

O'Brien MOVED, Krich seconded, to increase line item 10542090-56933 HeartSafe supplies, by \$3,500. All were in favor except McDevitt who opposed and DeVivo and Niles who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

Flores MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to increase line item 10541430-57300 for Equipment from zero to \$5,000. Flores was in favor, Martinez abstained and all others opposed. MOTION FAILED.

Krich MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to increase line item 10599000-59020 Transfer Out-wtd from \$10,000 to \$25,000. All were in favor except Fantoli who opposed. MOTION PASSED.

O'Brien MOVED, Krich seconded, to reinstate line item 10543190-54421 for bulky waste by \$40,000 as set forth in the Town Manager's proposed budget. All were in favor except Fantoli and Eldridge who opposed and DeVivo who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

O'Brien MOVED, DeVivo seconded, to reinstate leaf collection for \$35,000 as set forth in the Town Manager's proposed budget. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Lessard MOVED, Flores seconded, to increase line item 10543110-56220 for street lighting – Electricity by \$34,575. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Fantoli MOVED, Niles seconded, to increase the Capital budget by \$20,000 to add four traffic control signs. All were in favor except Ide who opposed. MOTION PASSED.

Niles MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to send the Town Manager's budget as amended to the Board of Finance. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Krich MOVED, McDevitt seconded, to delegate the Mayor and President of the Town Council to attend the Board of Finance meeting and to advocate that the Board of Finance approve the budget as presented. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (Councilmember Flores was out of the room and did not vote).

DeVivo MOVED, Ide seconded, to add to the Capital Projects \$40,000 for 44 trash cans and recycling bins. All were in favor except Krich who opposed and Flores who abstained. MOTION PASSED.

DeVivo MOVED, Ide seconded, to send the Town Manager's Capital Budget as amended to the Board of Finance. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Future Agenda Items:

None

Councilmember McDevitt left at 9:23 P.M.

11. Citizens and Delegations: Public Comment.

Joe Marsalisi, Willimantic, spoke against freezing the salaries of non union management employees.

Kevin Hoxie, Ridgewood Road, Willimantic, thanked Councilmember McDevitt for her efforts in raising \$1500 for the High School Band and Music Department. He also spoke against the Board of Education budget.

James Flores spoke about the need to keep the meetings civil and the way the Mayor singles him out and responds to him.

12. Adjournment.

DeVivo MOVED, Lessard seconded, to adjourn the Windham Town Council Special Budget Meeting at 9:31 P.M. All were in favor. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Submitted By:

Barbara J. McKinney
Clerk of the Town Council

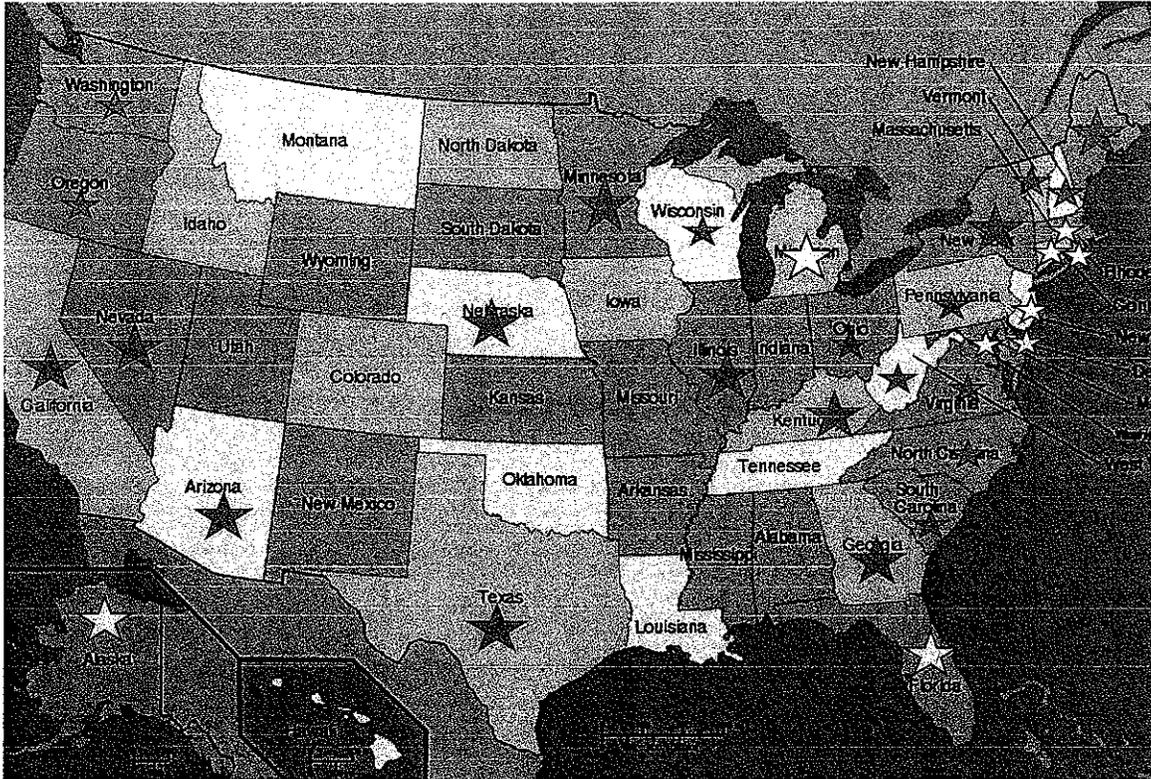
Attachment A

MILL MUSEUM, BUILDING-RELATED EXPENSES, 2011-2015
(NOT FUNDED BY THE TOWN OF WINDHAM)

DESCRIPTION	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
General Repairs and Maint.	\$1,241.00	\$329.44	\$242.53	\$535.17	\$1,117.00	\$3,465.14
Security Alarm	\$100.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$125.00	\$600.00
Security Alarm Repair				\$342.03	\$149.00	\$491.03
Fire Alarm	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$500.00
Fire Alarm Repair		\$1,022.00				\$1,022.00
Sprinkler Inspections	\$650.00	\$700.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$5,750.00
Sprinkler Repair		\$2,119.10	\$309.10	\$4,006.03	\$1,267.00	\$14,135.43
Furnace Maintenance	\$141.00	\$160.00	\$160.00	\$172.00		\$633.00
Furnace Repair		\$1,595.25		\$404.86		\$2,000.11
HVAC Repair	\$9,149.00	\$1,800.00	\$727.40	\$388.00	\$500.00	\$12,564.40
Property Insurance	\$937.00	\$946.00	\$1,037.25	\$1,044.75	\$1,062.50	\$5,027.50
Painting, Interior		\$1,773.47	\$91.99			\$1,865.46
Painting, Ramps				\$83.48		\$83.48
Painting, Exterior				\$31,450.00		\$31,450.00
Window Repair and Replacement		\$17.98	\$386.32		\$5,300.00	\$5,704.30
Floor Repair and Refinishing		\$4,700.00				\$4,700.00
Repair Visitor Center Sign			\$325.00			\$325.00
Shore Up Floor, Dugan Building			\$184.76			\$184.76
Shore Up Floor, Labor			donated			
Reinforce Dugan Cellar Entr.			\$260.00			\$260.00
Reinforce Cellar Entr., Labor			donated			
Repair Ceiling Water Damage				\$580.00		\$580.00
Lead Paint Survey				\$300.00		\$300.00
Replace Wooden Safety Fence				\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00
Replace Wooden Fence, Panels				donated		
Remove & Replace Gutters				\$2,250.00		\$2,250.00
Repair Steel Safety Fence				\$1,450.00		\$1,450.00
Portable Ramp				\$239.95		\$239.95
Remove Rotted Roof Fire Esc.				\$950.00		\$950.00
Snow Removal, Roof (To Stop Leak)				\$340.00		\$340.00
Plumbing & Electrical, Dugan Pantry					donated	
TOTAL	\$12,318.00	\$15,388.24	\$5,149.35	\$47,021.27	\$11,560.50	\$91,473.36

Attachment B

Textile Museum Visitors



Visitors have come
to the Textile
Museum from
Around the
United States and
from Around the
World.

Visitors from Other Countries

- Belgium
- Canada
- Denmark
- France
- Guatamala
- Italy
- Malaysia
- Ontario, Canada
- Panama
- Texas
- United Kingdom

**WINDHAM TEXTILE & HISTORY MUSEUM
FAST FACTS**

- In 2015, the visitor count at the Mill Museum was approximately 4,465.
 - Of these, 596 were individual (i.e., non-group) tours.
 - 1,331 were group tours, of which 1,242 were schoolchildren.
 - 339 were “walk-ins,” seeking tourist information, research in the Museum archives, etc.
 - 2,091 were participants in a Museum program or event.

- Visitors come from all over, not just from Windham. Of those who took individual tours:
 - 55% came from Connecticut towns outside of the Windham area.
 - 21% came from the Windham area (Windham and towns that border on Windham).
 - 21% came from other states.
 - 2% came from other countries.
 - Visitors came from 30 states and six countries.

- More than 150 people volunteered at the Museum in 2015. Volunteers included docents, archivists, counter staff, crafters, gift wrappers, repair persons, cleaners, researchers, writers, videographers, artists, computer techs, bookkeepers, etc. The majority of the work done at the Museum is done by volunteers.

- In January 2016 alone, 43 different volunteers reported 580 total volunteer hours at the Museum.

- The Mill Museum is the official Town of Windham visitors’ center, designated by the Board of Selectmen / Town Council. (The Chamber of Commerce is an unofficial visitors’ center; the Chamber is open Monday through Friday, while the Museum is open Friday through Sunday, so between the two of us, the whole week is covered.)

- The Mill Museum has 180 memberships: 113 family memberships and 67 individual memberships – adding up to around 300 actual members.

- The Museum’s annual budget is around \$85,000.00.

- All Town of Windham schools, public and private, are offered FREE school tours and programs. Each year, the majority of Windham’s third graders visit the Museum, along with classes from other grades.

Attachment C

Public Comment to the Windham Town Council – March 15, 2016

Good evening: My name is Bill Powers and I live at 355 Scotland Road, Windham Center.

I am a volunteer at the Windham Textile and History Museum. When I taught American History and Sociology at Windham High School, I was fortunate to be able to take my students to the Museum for field trips. The Museum is a rich resource for teachers to make the content more meaningful for students. The Museum possesses materials and information which enrich and improve the school curriculum for students at all levels. The museum helps to tailor the field trip experience to assure that individual teacher's educational goals and objectives are addressed. For instance, are the students learning about industrialization or about immigration.

"Museums hold the cultural wealth of the nation in trust for all generations by their function and unique position. They have become the cultural conscience of the nation." (E.M. Arinze, 1999)

Museums ensure understanding and appreciation for various groups and cultures. For instance, Museum exhibits have recently highlighted the tremendous contributions by Polish, Latino and Irish to this community. The Museum by doing so, promotes better understanding of our cultural heritage and fosters dialogue, curiosity and self-reflection. Further, it will serve to help current and future generations to comprehend their history and recognize the achievements of those who came before them.

The Museum is necessary and relevant today. It is charged with conserving, protecting and displaying artifacts and stories from our past and thus preserving our rich heritage which might otherwise be lost to private collectors or to time itself. Without our Museum we will most certainly lose the local tangible links to our past and the wonderful stories of those who came before us. PLEASE SUPPORT THE WINDHAM TEXTILE AND HISTORY MUSEUM.



The Mill Museum

Windham Textile & History Museum

411 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226

860-456-2178 www.millmuseum.org

Open Friday thru Sunday 10-4 or by appointment

2016

Membership

April 1st 2016 - March 31st 2017

Board of Directors and Staff

Executive Director:

Jamie H. Eves

Educational Consultant:

Beverly L. York

Gift Shop Manager /

Kit Eves

Collections Manager:

Rita Allen

Pieter Roos (President)

Luzella Roos (Past President)

Dawn Bakke (Vice President)

Claire Lary (Treasurer)

Pamela Horrocks (Secretary)

Ann Marie Charland

Adrienne Devivo

Orlando Echeverria

Shane Goodrich

Bob Hackemack

Sue Humes

Faith Kenton

Nicholas Khan

Kathy Miller

Ricardo Perez

Diana Perkins

Bill Powers

Candace Powers

Paula Sullivan

Sarah Winter (volunteer)

Bev York (non-voting)

March 1, 2016

Dear Friends,

The Windham Textile and History Museum (WTHM) membership year runs from April 1st through March. We are asking you to support our museum's mission by joining us for the first time, or rejoining for the umpteenth.

You will see from the enclosed material that we have a very full exciting year planned. We are especially proud of some new ventures (Tenement Museum trip to NYC, Textile Trio in June) in addition to popular favorites such as Mill of the Month, Hysterical Historicals, Kids Club. Our current exhibit showcases the Irish experience in Willimantic, open until October. Keep the sheet handy to refer to, and check for details.

You surely know that Windham and the Museum lost Mary Lou DeVivo during the summer, one of our strongest benefactors. She was one of our "umpteenth" members and a great friend especially to our Education program. We now need additional members to fill that void, both financially** and philosophically.

To the left are the names of our Board of Directors who, with many community volunteers, keep the Museum humming. Last year, we served nearly 5,000 people visiting our museum including 1200+ school children. You are invited to support us with a check, with your time and talent, your donations of historical items, or all of the above.

The museum is founding a Mary Lou Devivo Local History Educational Fund to fully continue our educational programs. If you wish to contribute to this new fund in addition to your membership, please indicate in the form below, and we thank you.

Please cut out and mail with your donation.

The Mill Museum

Windham Textile & History Museum

We are a 501(c) 3 organization so your contribution is tax deductible. Please make checks payable to: W.T.H.M and send to us: Windham Textile and History Museum, 411 Main Street, Willimantic, CT 06226 or use PayPal on the Museum's Website: <http://www.millmuseum.org/>

Membership levels include: Silk (Patron) \$100 _____ Wool (Family) \$50 _____
Cotton (Individual) \$25 _____ Other _____ Mary Lou Devivo Ed Fund _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

How many years a member? _____ New member? _____

Windham Textile & History Museum

The Mill Museum



Schedule of Events 2016

Nonprofit
PRE-SORTED
STANDARD
U.S. MAIL
POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 8
WILLIMANTIC, CT
06226

The Windham Textile and History Museum
411 Main Street
Willimantic, CT 06226
860-456-2178
www.themillmuseum.org

2016 – Calendar of Events

The Windham Textile and History Museum has an exciting schedule of events for 2016.

Members get free entry to many events.

For more information about our schedule or to make reservations
please call 860-456-2178 or
See our website www.themillmuseum.org

--- Winter & Spring ---

- Feb. 6 - Hysterical Historicals* - 1 p.m.
Feb. 13 - Chocolate Fest 12-2†
Chocolate mouse making - free
Feb. 13 - Kids Club** - 2 p.m. -
Abe Lincoln's Birthday
Feb. 15 - (Mon.) - 6 p.m. Party with the
Presidents†, Local historian Bev York will talk
on what the presidents ate and drank in the dining
room. Call Willibrew for reservations. Limited
Space 860-423-6777
Feb. 26 - Irish Exhibit Opening†
Feb. 27 - Mill of the Month*** - 4 p.m. program on
Silk Mills of Willimantic with focus on Atwood
machine Company. See the new Atwood silk
loom at the museum.
March 5 - Hysterical Historicals* - 1 p.m.
March 12 - Kids Club** - 2 p.m. -
Irish Americans
March 19 - Museum Lyceum - 4 p.m.
Mike Westerfield speaking on Poor Farms
March. 26 - Mill of the Month*** - 10 a.m.
Rockville (including the CT Civil War Mus.)
April 2 - Assoc. for the Study of Ct. History (private)
April 9 - Kid's Club** - 2 p.m. -
Famous Authors and Book Making
April 16 - Irish Tea† - 4 p.m. (Museum -2nd Floor)
April 23 - Mill of the Month*** - leave at 9 a.m. -
Woonsocket - Museum of Work and Culture
May 7 - Hysterical Historicals* - 1 p.m.
May 7 - Kids Club - 2 p.m. -
Colonial and Victorian Foods
May 14 - Murder Mystery Tea at the Museum† -
7 p.m. (adults)
May 19 - 3rd Thurs. - 6-9 p.m.
Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
May 21 - Museum Lyceum - 4 p.m.
Katy Hill, Irish Storyteller
May 28 - Mill of the Month*** - 4 p.m.
Downtown Bozrah

†SPECIAL EVENT - Additional fees may apply
3rd Thurs. Wagon Rides - \$3 Children. Under 3 Free

--- Summer ---

- June 4 - Candlelight tour of the
Victorian Mill Museum† - 8 p.m.
June 11 - Kids Club** - 2 p.m. -
Spinning Stories & Fibers -
The Meaning of Fairy Tales & Sayings
June 11 - CT Open house Day† -
½ Price Admission
June 11 - TEXTILE TRIO †
June 16 - 3rd Thurs. - 6-9 p.m.
Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
June 18 - TEXTILE TRIO †
WORLDWIDE KNOT IN PUBLIC DAY
June 25 - TEXTILE TRIO †
WEAVERS & SPINNERS Day
June 25 - Mill of the Month*** - 5 p.m. -
Willimantic Mills
July 2 - Hysterical Historicals* - 1 p.m.
July 21 - 3rd Thurs. - 6-9 p.m.
Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
July 23 - Mill of the Month*** - 4 p.m. -
Simsbury Mill & Restaurant
Special Extended Exhibit†: July through
September Sat & Sun. Noon to 4 -
Miniatures - \$5 separate admission
\$7 full tour \$5 Sen. & Students
-Glenn Martineau - Bread Box exhibit
-Annie Wandell - Historic Houses
Aug. 6 - Hysterical Historicals* - 1 p.m.
Aug. (Date to Come) - 3-6 p.m. -
Backyard Party† at Susan Johnson's Home
History of Windham Schools
Aug. 18 - 3rd Thurs. - 6-9 p.m.
Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
Aug. 27 - Mill of the Month*** - 4 p.m.
Taftville - Ponemah Mills

*Hysterical Historicals - Willimantic History Club,

No Admission - Dugan Hall

**Kids Club - Free to kids club members, other \$5.

Call to reserve 860-456-2178 (Dugan)

***Mill of the Month - Adults \$8. Members,
seniors and students \$6

--- Fall & Winter ---

- Sept 3 - Hysterical Historicals* - 1 p.m.
Sept. 5 - Labor Day Strike† -
The Molly Maguires - 6 p.m.
Sept. 10 - Kid's Club** - 2 p.m. -
National Parks 100 years (J. Alden Weir)
Sept. 15 - 3rd Thurs. - 6-9 p.m.
Horse Drawn Wagon Rides
Sept. 17 - Museum Lyceum -
Historical Houses (Annie Wandell)
Sept 24 - Mill of the Month*** - Bus trip -
Tenement Museum NYC (Details to come)
Oct 1. - Hysterical Historicals* - 1 p.m.
Oct. 8 - Kids's Club** - 2 p.m. -
Visit Windham Center Green
Oct. 9 - Last Day of Irish Exhibit
Oct. 15 - Arts and Eats (Walktober)†
Oct. 15 - Museum Lyceum -
The Nonprofit Murders - Book Talk
Oct. 21, 22, 23 - Nightmare on Main†
Oct. 22 - Mill of the Month*** - 10 a.m.
Baltic - Walk through village and to
the squatter cottage sites.
Nov. 5 - Hysterical Historicals* - 1 p.m.
Nov. 12 - Kid's Club** - 2 p.m. -
Dying Shirts and creating Whoville
Nov. 13 - Tea and Just Desserts† -
Countries Around the World.
Nov. 19 - Museum Lyceum -
Eric Loomis, writer (tentative)
Dec. 3 - Hysterical Historicals* - 1 p.m.
Dec. 2? - Dec. 31 - Trains, Trees and Toys† -
Model Train displays - old fashioned toys.
Dec. 10 - Kid's Club** - 1-4 p.m. -
Gingerbread Festival and
Grinch Birthday Party
Dec. 10/11 & 17/18- Holiday Shop Artisan Fair†
Local Artisans sell their wares. Free Admission

Call for more information or reservations

860-456-2178

www.themillmuseum.org

Textile Trio 2016

Schedule of Demos & Lectures

(Events and demonstrators may be subject to change)

Quilting & Fiber Arts – June 11

--- VENDORS

Schiller's Sewing Circle

Stitch Chicks Quilt Shop

MJ Fiber Art

Quilting Supplies & Embellishments

with Allison Wilbur

Hand Dyed and Painted Fabrics

with Carol Eaton

Background Music – M & M Dulcimers

--- DISPLAY HANGINGS (Dugan)

Fiber Art – Catherine Smith

Quilts - Melanie Johnston and Joan Blade Johnson

Mill Girl Quilts - Barbara Barber

--- DEMOS (Dugan second floor, rear entrance)

11 a.m.-4 p.m. - Sewing Machine Demo

- Schiller's Sewing Circle

11 a.m.-4 p.m. - Hand Dyed and Painted Fabric

- Carol Eaton

12 p.m. Hand Quilting – Catherine Smith

1-2 p.m. Mill Music – Sally Rogers

2 p.m. Printing Images on Fabric

Catherine Smith and Joan Johnson

3 p.m. Stitch Chick

--- LECTURES: – Main Building (second floor)

11-11:30 a.m. SAQA Trunk Show - Hope Barton

11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Modern Quilting

- Rita Hannafin

1:15-1:45 p.m. Quilt for Change - Allison Wilbur

2:00-2:30 p.m. Mill Girls – Barbara Barber

2:45-3:15 p.m. What is your quilt worth?

Appraising - Lois Palmer

3:30-4 p.m. (Dugan – first floor)

Atwoodville Loom – Jamie Eyes

Knitting and Yarn – June 18

10 a.m.-4 p.m. World Wide Knit in Public Day,

Come, Sit, Knit

Beginner Knitters – Volunteers

Knitting Triage – Don't Rip-it, Fix-it – Volunteers

Beginner Knitters – Volunteers

--- DEMOS (Dugan second floor, rear entrance)

Design your own - Natasha Darius, Putnam

From Critter to Sweater – KC Burton

Mosaic Knitting – Woolwork LTD

Needle Felting

Bunnies Love to Spin Too

--- LECTURES: – Main Building (second floor)

Knitting as Therapy – Dagmar Noll

Keeping Warm – Traditional Knitted Garments

Practical Beauty – Sweaters / Mitts / Shawls

Sources of Yarn -

- Plant Based Yarn - Woolworks, Ltd., Putnam

- Angora Goats – Sally Pappenheimer

Tapestry Art

Weaving / Spinning – June 25

--- DEMOS (Dugan second floor, rear entrance)

Weaving Demonstration with Peggy Church

Make your own Drop Spindle with Peggy Church

Learn to Spin on a Drop Spindle with,

Amelia & Madeline Church

--- LECTURES: – Main Building (second floor)

Mulberries to Silk lecture with Ann Galonsky

Colonial Spinning with Bev York

Atwoodville Loom (Dugan first floor)

talk with Jamie Eyes

All of This and Much More!

-Lunches available from "Our Place"-

455 Main Street, Willimantic



TEXTILE TRIO

Windham Textile Mill Museum

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

June 11

Quilting and Fiber Arts

June 18

World Wide Knit in Public Day

June 25

Weavers / Spinners Day

Donation \$10 adults, \$5 children

Textile Fun for Children – Bev York

For more information, please call

860-456-2178, 860-456-0817

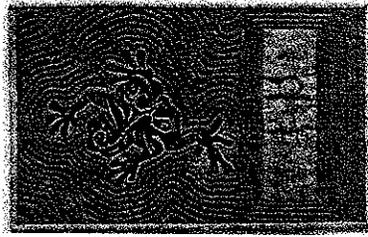
Website www.themillmuseum.org

Quilting and Fiber Arts

June 11, 2016, 10-4

Melanie Johnston
mjfiberart@gmail.com

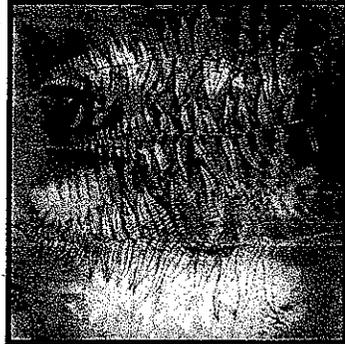
Is an artist working with textiles. Her subject matter ranges from the realistic to collage and abstract. She uses commercial and hand dyed cotton and silk as well as any other interesting fabric that strikes her fancy. She particularly enjoys dyeing and painting her own fabric using a variety of techniques from ice dyeing and shibori to gradation and whole cloth.



Joan Blade Johnson

loveartquilts@gmail.com

Joan is a fiber artist who has long been interested in all things fiber. In the last several years, she has become fascinated by the entire creative process involved in composing fiber art pieces using non-traditional methods and materials to achieve her artistic vision, most often inspired by nature and her original nature photography.



Catherine Whall Smith

smith.catherine62@gmail.com

Catherine Whall Smith is a quilter, living in Chaplin, CT. She designs her quilts through the process of discovery --- discovery of the relationships of fabric, pattern, color, and a limited variety of shapes. All of her art quilts are traditionally hand quilted.

Worldwide Knit in Public Day

June 18, 2016, 10-4



Elizabeth Zimmerman. 1919-1999,
author of Knitting Without Tears

World Wide Knit in Public Day was started in 2005 and takes place on the second Saturday of June each year. It began as a way for knitters to come together and enjoy each other's company.

Knit in Public Day is unique, in that it's the largest knitter run event in the world. Each local event is put together by a volunteer or a group of volunteers. They each organize an event because they want to, not because they have to. They bring their own fresh ideas into planning where the event should be held, and what people would like to do.

Weavers / Spinners Day

June 25, 2016, 10-4



Peggy Church
peggychurch@earthlink.net

Peggy is a textile hand weaver and her studio is located in the historic New England village of Chaplin. She has spent over 30 years at her craft and enjoys preserving the ancient art of textile weaving. Her handwoven textiles make beautiful gifts for your home or personal use. She has 100 percent pure silk woven scarves dyed with natural colors. She conducts individual lessons for weaving and hand spinning instruction.

3 Textile Trio

2016

June 11

Quilting Past & Present

June 18

Worldwide

Knit in Public Day

June 25

Weavers and Spinners



A
♣ 7 Through
Irish
Eyes

The Irish
Experience in a
Connecticut
Mill town.

Opens
Feb. 26 and
Runs Through



6 Teas at the
Museum



Irish Tea

April 16

4 p.m.

(Museum -2nd Floor)

Tea and Just

Desserts

Nov. 13

Countries

Around the World.



7
♣ Special
Exhibit

July through
September

Sat & Sun. Noon to 4

MINIATURES

\$5 separate admission

\$7 full museum tour

\$5 Seniors & Students

- Glenn Martineau –
Bread Box exhibit
- Annie Wandell –
Historic Houses
- And More



K KIDS CLUB

2 p.m.

Feb. 13. - Abe Lincoln's Birthday

March 12 - Irish Americans

April 9 - Famous Authors and Book Making

May 7 - Colonial and Victorian Foods

June 11 - Spinning Stories & Fibers - The meaning of fairy tales & sayings

Sept. 10 - National Parks 100 years (J. Alden Weir)

Oct. 8 - Visit Windham Center Green

Nov. 12 - Dying Shirts and creating Whoville

Dec. 10- 1-4 p.m. - Gingerbread Festival and Grinch Birthday Party



4 MILL of the MONTH

Feb. 27 - 4 p.m.

Willimantic Silk Mills & Atwood Loom

March 26 - 10 am - Rockville, including the Civil War Museum

April 23 - 9 am - Woonsocket Museum of Work & Culture

May 28 - 4 pm - Downtown Bozrah

June 25 - 5 pm - Willimantic

July 23 - 4 pm - Simsbury Mill & Restaurant

Aug. 27 - 4 pm - Taftville - Ponemah Mills

Sept. 24 - Bus Trip - Tenement Museum, NYC. Details to come.

Oct. 22 - 10 am - Baltic, Mill & squatter cottages



JOKER HYSTERICAL HISTORICALS

Willimantic History Club

-No Admission -

Meet at Dugan Hall - 1 p.m. First Saturday of each month

- 2016 -

Feb 6th,

March 5th

No April or June Meeting

May 7th

July 2nd

Aug 6th

Sept. 3rd

Oct. 1st

Nov. 5th

Dec. 3rd

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5 Museum Lyceum

4 p.m.

March 19 - Mike Westerfield Speaking on Poor Farms

May 21 - Katy Hill, Irish Storyteller

Sept. 17 - Historical Houses (Annie Wandell)

Oct. 15 - "The Nonprofit Murders" - Book Reading

Nov. 19 - Eric Loomis, writer

