

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FEBRUARY 7, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.
LINCOLN CENTER HEARING ROOM**

ONE MEETING AGENDA

PRESENT: Mayor Moran, Deputy Mayor Hackett, Secretary Kissmann, Directors Devanney, Eckbreth, Galligan, Gates, Irish, and Jones

ABSENT: None

ALSO: General Manager Shanley and Assistant Town Attorney Timothy O’Neil

EXECUTIVE SESSION - The Board went into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m. to discuss Security and Real Estate and adjourned at 7:14 p.m. Present were Mayor Moran, Deputy Mayor Hackett, Secretary Kissmann, Directors Devanney, Eckbreth, Galligan, Gates, Irish, Jones, General Manager Shanley and Chief Marc Montminy. No votes were taken.

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:17 p.m. All in attendance participated in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, led by Mayor Moran.

Mayor Moran mentioned that Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin will be here on Wednesday, February 8, at 7:00 p.m., in the Hearing Room of Lincoln Center to discuss the City of Hartford. The public meeting will also be broadcast on Channel 16.

2. AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Recognize recipients of National Arson Investigators award.

Mayor Moran praised the Police and Fire personnel who were honored with the Outstanding Service Award from the International Association of Arson Investigators for their work on the January 18, 2014, fire and homicide investigation at 52 Park Street in Manchester.

Mayor Moran appreciated their hard work, dedication, and teamwork in solving this very difficult case and offered congratulations on a well-deserved honor! He presented citations to Christian Frezza, Fire Inspector, Town of Manchester Fire Department; James Jennings, Fire Inspector, Town of Manchester Fire Department; Detective David Miele, Lead Investigator, Town of Manchester Police Department; Detective James Moore, Arson Investigator, Town of Manchester Police Department; and Detective Kerri Rosa (who was not present), Arson Investigator, Town of Manchester Police Department.

3. OPENING OF MEETING TO ELECTORS OR TAXPAYERS WHO WISH TO BE HEARD ON ANY SUBJECT WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. *(Sign-up sheet available 15 minutes prior to the start of the meeting)*

James Memery, 31 Bette Drive, has lived in Manchester for 55 years. He was concerned about sanctuary cities. Mr. Memery knew of people from Brazil who took over nine years to go through the legal process, developed a business, and had contributed to our country. He resented illegal immigrants who take advantage of our safety networks which are taxpayer funded. Mr. Memery thought, in the case of immigration, power has gravitated to the federal government because we needed a uniform set of laws to govern the entire country. He believed it unconscionable that cities could become a sanctuary city and defy federal law. Mr. Memery asked the Directors to consider putting this issue up for referendum to obtain an honest opinion from the entire Manchester population.

Mayor Moran clarified that WFSB falsely reported Manchester as a sanctuary city. Manchester is not officially a sanctuary city.

Joyce Trainer, 5 Walek Farms Road, had provided immigrant families with assistance in obtaining employment and acclimating to the United States. She currently provides financial assistance directly to a refugee family in Town. As a former bank executive, she was familiar with the assistance provided by the Federal Law Enforcement agencies involving crime investigations in financial institutions. She felt that local law enforcement should provide whatever legal assistance is necessary from any agency, including local, state, and federal. Ms. Trainer felt any lack of cooperation with the federal law enforcement agencies was wrong and would be counterproductive to society.

Diane DeJoannis, 280 Scott Drive, explained that Manchester had become a diverse community. She valued our diversity and our police department, but felt our police should not be involved in separating family members by complying with Trump's plan to use police as a deportation force. She asked the Board of Directors to prevent such an offensive plan.

Gene DeJoannis, 280 Scott Drive, believed that our police force has done a remarkable job in our Town. He did not think that police should be used as an extension of the federal immigration service. He proposed that rather than leave it up to the discretion of the officer to determine the immigration status of someone they stop for a minor traffic incident, it should not be part of the questioning. He felt that these undocumented people should not be fearful of working with police and reporting crime. Mr. DeJoannis knew of undocumented residents who were hard-working, struggling to make ends meet, and feared possible deportation. They pay taxes and are not eligible for many federal services because they are not citizens. He did not believe they represented a burden on our Town. He would not like the police used to help the federal agencies deport them, and felt that President Trump was wrong on the immigration issue.

Jackie Campion, 248 Woodbridge Street, thought most of the Directors were too young to remember when children were bused from Hartford to Manchester to improve their education. There was a lot of push-back at that time, and people were disgruntled that we should be accepting of people from other communities to come to Manchester to better their lives. Manchester has changed a lot since then and has become a very diverse community. When people have to leave their own country because of persecution, they should not be singled out by the police department so that they can be deported and possibly killed going back to their country.

Daniel A. Moran, 145 Chestnut Street, was concerned with the Prospect/ECHN layoffs. He was astounded that Prospect only paid \$105 million for Manchester Memorial and Rockville Hospitals when eight to ten years ago Manchester was going to spend \$100 million to build a high school. He understood there was a three year tax break, and that they leased their major equipment so they did not have to pay taxes. He also did not think the helicopter pad being contemplated at the Parkade was a good idea. He suggested putting a helicopter pad on the rooftop at the hospital. Mr. Moran was also concerned with the Board of Education's budget. When he was a member of the Redevelopment Agency, he suggested an educational complex at the Parkade. He thought it was less expensive to bus children than maintaining a lot of buildings. Mr. Moran was concerned that it cost \$67 million to renovate one school. He also did not like the benches in the Hearing Room, the idea of Complete Streets, or the infrastructure in Town. He suggested tearing down buildings on Main Street and putting up new buildings like South Windsor or Glastonbury. He felt that Manchester was losing the economic development battle.

General Manager Shanley commented that the helipad is currently at the high school and is used by the hospital to transport patients to other higher trauma facilities. It was the Town's suggestion, not the hospital's, that they look at the Broad Street location as a temporary site because the high school is in need of the helipad moving. General Manager Shanley added that the hospital purchased all of the debt and post-employment benefit liabilities as well. He also noted that they do pay taxes on equipment.

Mayor Moran asked where the Hearing Room benches came from.

General Manager Shanley responded that the benches were originally at Whiton Library. They are historic and the Town has had them since the building was built in 1921.

Thomas Breen, 32 Pearl Street, thought that the main objective of our Town was to keep it safe and secure for all of its residents whether they are native or have come from other countries. He felt if we spent time, money, and manpower chasing so-called illegal immigrants (people who do not have proper documentation), and we disregarded the safety of our residents, we were wasting our resources. The immigration laws were so draconian that it took people nine years to get through all of the hoops. Many of us, without even knowing, have friends, neighbors, fellow worshipers in our churches, who were undocumented. Mr. Breen felt they paid taxes, had valid driver's licenses, had been educated in our schools, and held jobs that contributed to our community.

Elma Marshall, 13 Morse Road, explained that she was a Mexican American and disagreed with people who would like Manchester to be a sanctuary city. She was born 30 miles from the Mexican border and understood what it was like to have people entering this country illegally. She felt illegal immigrants took benefits from our own citizens and the elderly.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- A. Minutes, January 3, 2017 – Special Meeting
- B. Actions, January 3, 2017 – Regular Meeting
- C. Minutes, January 3, 2017 – Regular Meeting
- D. Minutes, January 24, 2017 – Policy Briefing Meeting

Gates/Eckbreth

Nine Voted in Favor

5. COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Moran noted he had received emails regarding sanctuary cities, both in favor and against.

6. REPORTS

- A. Manager's Report
 - 1. Summer Camp Report.

General Manager Shanley explained that the summer camp report is presented this time of year because there is a need to advertise the camps and the appropriate fee structure. He introduced **Mr. Chris Silver**, Director of Leisure, Family and Recreation, and **Mr. Calvin Harris**, Recreation Supervisor.

Mr. Silver announced that the 2017 Summer Recreation Camp season begins Monday, June 26 and operates for six weeks through Friday, August 4. Regular camp day operates 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and extended care from 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The program will continue to offer arts and crafts, sports and games, swimming, trips and special events. The program also works with the Manchester Public Schools to make available summer food service at all the sites providing all campers with breakfast and lunch.

The 2017 season will again provide four camp sites for ages 5-11 year olds at Robertson, Washington, Bowers and Martin Schools. Additionally, there will be an 11-13 year old site at Illing Middle School, a 13-15 year old site at the Community Y Recreation Center, and a Recreation Leader in Training site for 14-15 year olds at Nathan Hale. In total, Summer Recreation will offer 560 camp slots.

The current fees for camps are:

\$55 (\$45 additional child) Regular Camp Week 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

\$50 Extended Care 7:30-9:00 a.m. and 3:00-5:30 p.m.

Camp registration packets and announcements go out to the general public on Monday, February 13. Information and registration packets will be available on-line at recreation.townofmanchester.org and at all Recreation Centers and the Town Hall Customer Service Center. Registration will be accepted by mail-in only through Friday, March 31.

Recreation requested that the Board of Directors provide consensus with the 2017 Summer Recreation Camp Plan, and authorize any changes to its fee schedule before the budget process so that they may move forward with publicity and registration.

Mr. Silver provided a Fee Comparison Study of Participating Connecticut cities. In December, Recreation conducted a fee study of ten communities with similar populations. Manchester was the least expensive per week for regular camp, and total cost for camp and extended. The total cost was \$30 less than the next city of Danbury.

Mr. Silver exhibited a table that showed the current year's budget was \$328,896 for the camp year. Recreation's request this year is \$361,501 with an increased cost of \$32,605. The estimated revenue is \$190,835 and the estimated Town subsidy is \$170,666 or 47.2 percent.

Mr. Silver provided a chart of \$5 incremental increases to show how the subsidy could decrease. The budget request increase was primarily due to the increase in minimum wage from \$9.60 to \$10.10, and two additional camp days that will fall prior to the next fiscal year.

Mr. Silver's recommendation was for a \$5 increase for both regular day and extended day camp fees with a total cost for one week of camp of \$115. This is still lower than the next two highest Towns of Danbury (\$135) and East Hartford (\$145) per week. Additionally, the \$5 increase would increase revenue by an estimated \$39,961 which would make up for the increase of \$32,605 in the FY 17-18 budget request for summer camps.

Mr. Silver also noted that Recreation has been participating with the Board of Education in the Summer Advantage Academy of Manchester Program (S.A.A.M.) for the past five years. Because of Alliance Grant cuts, the Recreation Department will not be participating this year, and it is still questionable whether or not the program will be continuing.

Mayor Moran requested an explanation of the S.A.A.M. Program.

Mr. Silver clarified that S.A.A.M. is a summer education and recreation program. Alliance Grant funds provided educational opportunities for children who were referred to the program. Approximately 300 children were accommodated per summer at three sites. The educational portion lasted until 10:30 a.m., and then Recreation provided the recreational component for the rest of the camp day using the same format as the regular camp programs.

General Manager Shanley confirmed that it was paid for by the Alliance Grant.

Mayor Moran asked if it would be available this summer.

Mr. Silver responded that as of right now, there is no action to continue that program based on meetings with the Board of Education.

Mayor Moran questioned if the staff's recommendation was for the fee to increase by \$5 on both ends for a \$10 total increase to \$115.

Mr. Silver responded affirmatively.

Director Irish noted the maximum number of campers was listed as 560 per session. He requested the actual number of campers per session.

Mr. Silver advised that it is a filled program. Last year the program filled within the first two weeks of registration.

Director Irish also noted that no child was passed up to attend if they could not afford it. He questioned what the percentage of students were subsidized.

Mr. Silver answered approximately ten percent.

Director Irish thought the subsidy to this program would be higher because the Board of Education indicated that over 50 percent of their students were on Section Eight. He also did not come up with the same number as Mr. Silver. If the increase was \$5 a student multiplied by 560 students and six sessions the total was approximately \$17,700.

Mr. Silver indicated that there was a formula on the bottom of the handout that was used.

Mayor Moran noted that all of our children were subsidized, just at different levels.

Mr. Silver responded that the Town provides a 47 percent subsidy to the program. He agreed to check his figures and will confirm the numbers with Director Irish.

Director Irish had checked with the city of Meriden and they subsidized 100 percent. He suggested increasing the fee by \$10 instead of \$5 because of the value provided, and the fact that we were so low compared to other cities.

Mayor Moran noted that not only do the participants get a great experience, but this program has always offered great first employment and management opportunities for our youth.

Mr. Silver agreed and noted the Recreation Leader in Training program is an in-house job training program for aquatic and camp staff.

Director Eckbreth supported an increase of \$10. Director Eckbreth noted that the students in our community who qualify for free and reduced lunch are offered opportunities for camps that provide transportation in surrounding communities. She did not think our numbers would reflect all the students coming into our camps, because depending upon where they fall in the economics of their household, there are other choices available. Director Eckbreth remembered fees were raised one year and there was a drop off in enrollment. She questioned if there had been a drop off in recent years.

Mr. Silver answered no.

Mayor Moran suggested increasing the fee \$20 for a total of \$125 as opposed to \$115. He asked if the extra \$10 increase from \$115 to \$125 was going to make a huge difference.

Mr. Silver did not think it would.

Director Jones asked what percentage of the campers sign on for extended day.

Mr. Silver answered 30 percent of 560.

Director Jones asked if consideration had been given to changing the schedule to reflect the longer day.

Mr. Silver replied no. Many other programs had extended the “extended day” to 6:00 p.m. to be more accommodating to working parents, but Manchester had not.

Director Jones questioned why camp ended at the beginning of August.

Mr. Silver answered that Recreation had been working with Manchester Early Learning Center (MELC) with the anticipation of the S.A.A.M. Program ending. Last year, Recreation took on one of the S.A.A.M. sites. This year, Recreation is being phased out and if they were to continue S.A.A.M. this year, MELC would pick up the additional two sites that were normally held by the school system. MELC would provide those extended weeks that have not normally happened. Recreation offers “before camp starts gap programs” and “after camp gap programs” which are a bit higher priced. Mr. Silver believed that this schedule had been around for some time, and most families are accustomed to planning alternate means during that month.

Director Gates remarked that the feedback every summer is very positive and that is to Mr. Silver and the staff's credit. He was surprised if the fee increased to \$10 that Recreation did not foresee any impact on enrollment. He supported \$10 if that was the consensus.

Secretary Kissmann thought the camp program was very positive as he had two grandchildren who attended. His oldest grandchild is 16 and is now a staffer. He supported the program and any recommended increase.

Deputy Mayor Hackett complemented Mr. Silver on an exceptional program. She thought a \$10 increase was quite modest. Deputy Mayor Hackett questioned if it had been ruled out to participate in the S.A.A.M. program, or is the discussion whether we will end temporarily for this year and resume participation in the future.

Mr. Silver responded that there has been very agreeable discussion with both sides. Recreation felt MELC was an important organization in the community and giving them a larger piece of the pie would allow the organization to thrive. It allows Recreation to focus more on the quality of programs and to develop new programs in different areas.

Director Irish questioned if out of town children are allowed in to this program.

Mr. Silver answered no.

Mayor Moran suggested increasing the fee to \$125. The entire Board agreed.

2. Sidewalk Capital Investment Update.

General Manager Shanley explained that at last month's meeting, residents from the Hollywood section spoke about the condition of their sidewalks. He felt it was important to put all of our sidewalks in context. General Manager Shanley introduced **Mr. Robert Reardon**, Director of Public Works, and **Mr. Jeff LaMalva**, Town Engineer to give an update on the Town sidewalk program.

Mr. LaMalva stated that in 1990, the Board of Directors adopted the Sidewalk Priority System, a master planning document created to prioritize each sidewalk segment so that future funding for sidewalk replacements were utilized in an effective, disciplined manner. A numerical rating was assigned to each sidewalk segment (one block), based on a weighted average of need-based factors such as proximity to schools, elderly/handicapped housing, mass transit, and recreation facilities, abutting zoning, road classification, conformance with Planning and Zoning's Master Development Plan, and the ability to eliminate bus routes.

This system has worked very well over the past 26 years. It has been very helpful to show residents who requested replacements that there was a system in place to objectively maintain close to 250 miles of sidewalk.

This Town, to the credit of past Boards, has fully supported the sidewalk program by appropriating the necessary funding to complete the work. The primary source of funding for sidewalk replacements has been the biannual Public Works bond referendum. However, funding has also been received from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the State's Local Capital Improvement Program, the Town's General Fund, and the STP-Urban program.

This commitment to fund the program has produced extraordinary results. Mr. LaMalva provided a map where the magenta color showed the number of sidewalks installed or replaced since the Priority System was adopted in 1990--close to 4 million square feet or approximately 160 miles which is roughly 71 percent of our inventory. The orange color on the map indicated the remaining sidewalks needing to be replaced. Lastly, the green color indicated sidewalk segments which have been identified for isolated repairs only. These are mostly sidewalks that were constructed in the 1970's and 1980's that have not deteriorated enough to warrant full replacement, but will most likely require spot repairs.

Mayor Moran questioned what it meant if a street on the map had no color.

Mr. LaMalva answered that there were no sidewalks on that road. He continued that the orange color on the map represented 215,000 square feet (about 10 miles or 4 percent of our inventory) of sidewalks needing full replacement. With the exception of a few streets like Santina Drive and McCann Drive, the remaining segments are located within six neighborhood areas. In descending order of priority rating, these neighborhoods are: the Valley Street neighborhood west of Town Hall bordered by Center Street and Center Springs Park; the Jarvis subdivision between Middle Turnpike West and West Center Street; the Gerard/Cone neighborhood between Middle Turnpike East and East Center Street; the Hollywood subdivision near East Cemetery; the Green Hill Terrace subdivision north of Hilliard Street; and the Oak Park subdivision east of Pitkin Street.

The Valley Street neighborhood had an average need rating of 52 (the ratings are 0 to 100 with 100 being the highest priority). The neighborhood includes Edgerton Street, Newman Street, Knox Street, Winter Street, and Orchard Street. The sidewalks on Edgerton Street will be replaced this year in conjunction with our planned road reconstruction project. The estimated cost to replace the remainder of that neighborhood is approximately \$200,000. This neighborhood is eligible for Community Development Block Grant funding; however, the water mains in this area are scheduled to be replaced in 2018. For this reason, it is recommended to delay the construction of sidewalks until the water project is completed. Because the streets are so narrow, the permanent removal of sidewalks on one side of the road may be considered. This has been done in the past on roads with low traffic volumes. If considered during the design phase, it would be presented at a neighborhood meeting to assure that the majority of the residents agreed.

The Jarvis subdivision includes Carroll Drive, Chester Drive, Thomas Drive, Dover Road, Edison Road, Morris Road, Salem Road, Fulton Road, Hendee Road, Jarvis Road, and Whitney Road. The average need rating is 46. This was the largest of the remaining neighborhoods, and the estimated cost to complete is approximately \$1.3 million. Connecticut Natural Gas has started to replace the gas mains and plans to continue with additional phases over the next two to three years to complete the entire neighborhood. For this reason, it is recommended to defer this work until they are substantially complete.

The Gerard/Cone neighborhood includes Gerard Street, Cone Street, Stephen Street, Coburn Road, and Plymouth Lane. The average need rating is 43 and has an estimated cost of approximately \$600,000. The roads in this neighborhood are also in poor condition and will be identified for resurfacing under the next Public Works bond referendum proposal. It is recommended that a single project to reconstruct the road and sidewalks be done in 2018 or 2019.

The Hollywood subdivision includes Westminster Road, Cromwell Street, Scarborough Road, Wellington Road, and Lancaster Road. The average need rating is 38 and the cost to complete is approximately \$550,000. There is no planned utility construction in the next five years.

The average need rating of the Green Hill Terrace subdivision which includes Elwood Road, Robert Road, Richard Road, Raymond Road, and a portion of Waranoke Road, is 35. The estimated cost is approximately \$520,000. There is no planned utility work within the next five years.

The Oak Park subdivision consists of Bilyeu Road, Margaret Road, Loomis Street, Griffin Road, and Canterbury Street, and has an average need rating of 34. The cost to replace this neighborhood is approximately \$525,000, and the entire neighborhood falls within CDBG eligibility boundaries. There is no planned utility work within the next five years.

When you factor in the planned utility work in the Valley Street and Jarvis neighborhoods, the next highest ranked areas are the Gerard/Cone areas and the Hollywood subdivision. Following the 1990 ranking system, these areas would be the next scheduled sidewalks targeted for replacements. Unfortunately, however, there is not enough remaining funds to fully complete either one of these areas in the 2017 season.

The Public Works bond referendum is on a two year cycle and 2017 is the second year of that cycle. The amount of money left in the account after last year's program is approximately \$375,000. After deducting the \$130,000 that is committed toward Edgerton Street, that leaves \$254,000 remaining. With that, possibly two or three of the roads in the Hollywood subdivision could be completed in 2017. The remainder of the neighborhood could be finished in 2018 assuming funding is appropriated at the next bond referendum.

Mr. Reardon added that the cost to complete the remainder of the program is approximately \$4 million. He noted that with 250 miles of sidewalks, there are about 10 miles remaining.

General Manager Shanley advised that the timeframe could be accelerated if more funding for sidewalks were included in the road bond.

Director Eckbreth was interested in knowing exactly how many sidewalks in the Hollywood section could be patched until they were replaced.

Mr. LaMalva responded that the remaining funding could be put towards the worst roads such as Scarborough. Field Services could also complete blacktop/asphalt patching.

Director Eckbreth believed the community needed to be educated as to the asphalt patches being temporary until the scheduled replacement.

Mr. Reardon explained that when complaints are received, he visits the homeowner personally to see the areas needing repairs. If deemed necessary, Public Works has done spot repairs.

Mr. LaMalva added that much of the Town now complies with new ADA standards for accessibility.

Director Gates agreed we should stay the course so eventually the Town will be in more of a maintenance phase.

Director Irish remarked that the Hollywood subdivision was not being shown special treatment because they came before the Board and raised concerns. He questioned if there would be funds available in CDBG.

General Manager Shanley answered yes, should the federal government fund the program, there would be a proposal to set aside funds. He confirmed that we were now in the \$500,000 range with the amount for sidewalks being limited by percentage. Typically, in our CDBG programming, we have been doing \$80,000 to \$100,000 to address those sidewalks on the priority list.

Mayor Moran confirmed that the LOCIP (state) money is going to be cut.

General Manager Shanley indicated that Governor Malloy's budget will authorize the bonding retroactively of those items that were cut for the current year.

3. Update on Tax Sale.

General Manager Shanley explained that the Board adopted a set of policies three and a half years ago to guide the process of collecting delinquent taxes. Most of the properties that owed money have paid without going to the extent of a tax sale. General Manager Shanley introduced **Mr. John Rainaldi**, Town Assessor.

Mr. Rainaldi reported that the latest tax sale, which was the third one since the new policy was adopted in 2013, was held on January 10, 2017. When the process began in July 2016, there were 29 properties owing approximately \$908,000 in back taxes, interest, and fees including 8th District taxes which were collected as part of the tax sale as well. Of those 29 properties, 15 paid in full before the tax sale with 3 more making payment arrangements. A few properties were removed based on legal advice from the Town Attorney and outside counsel.

The remaining eight properties went to auction with seven being sold. The collection total was approximately \$740,000 out of the \$908,000 that was initially owed. Mr. Rainaldi noted on a handout the total amount due and the bid amount for each property. The bid amount in some cases exceeded the amount of the debt, although the Town does not keep the overage. The money goes to the court and any other lien holders can petition the court. The Town is paid first as it supersedes all other liens.

Mr. Rainaldi explained that a tax collector's deed is prepared after the sale and locked in the safe at the Town Clerk's office. By statute, the Town has to wait six months before the deeds can be recorded in the land records and the bidders would own the property. During that time period, the owner could redeem the property if they pay the winning bidder the amount of the bid plus interest.

Approximately 40 people attended the tax sale with 26 registering as bidders. The bidders leave a \$5,000 non-refundable deposit at the day of the tax sale and pay the balance within about three days.

Director Irish questioned if we collected water and sewer fees as well or if it was a separate amount.

Mr. Rainaldi answered yes, the water, sewer, and 8th District taxes are all included in the amount.

4. Group Home Identification and Ordinance Consideration.

Mayor Moran stated that Director Irish drafted a resolution that went to a subcommittee that he and Director Irish served on. Legal counsel is reviewing the draft from a legal standpoint, and the subcommittee is currently waiting for a report to present to the Board.

Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil added that from a legal perspective, there are fair housing federal laws and State of Connecticut fair housing statutes that would make some of the provisions in the ordinance that is being proposed problematic.

Mayor Moran reiterated that there will be another subcommittee meeting and hopefully, a draft to propose at the March meeting.

Director Irish was concerned that the plethora of group homes in Manchester was hurting the community overall. He thought the group homes were businesses.

Director Eckbreth asked Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil if he was referring to ADA compliance and discrimination laws as many of these group homes have disabled individuals.

Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil answered yes. He shared a conversation he had with the executive director for an organization called Open Communities Alliance. They were in favor of group homes, but acknowledged that Manchester has more than its fair share. One of the plans that they were presenting to the legislature is called the Fair Share Housing Plan which would try to spread the wealth around the State of Connecticut.

Mayor Moran questioned where the cost-share was from local communities surrounding Manchester that did not have group homes. He will look forward to meeting with the subcommittee and reporting back in March.

5. Sanctuary City Status.

General Manager Shanley explained that a sanctuary city, through ordinance, resolution, or general executive orders, has determined how to deal with illegal immigration, especially as it relates to federal law enforcement efforts. The Town of Manchester has not taken any actions of that type regarding immigration and immigration law. By that definition, the Town of Manchester is not a sanctuary city.

General Manager Shanley noted there was a website utilized by WFSB and CBS News that has a map to identify sanctuary cities and Manchester was listed. Allegedly in the last decade, there was an incident where ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) did not receive the cooperation that they felt they should have received from the Town of Manchester. We have no evidence or recollection of any such incident. Having a dispute with a federal law enforcement agency over the jurisdiction of an individual is not uncommon and does not make one a sanctuary city. We are a community that for 150 years has welcomed immigrants. The Cheneys actively sought immigrants to come to Manchester. We are a warm and welcoming community; we are not a sanctuary city. There is a legal difference. General Manager Shanley introduced **Chief Marc Montminy** to answer any questions.

Chief Montminy commented that the document that the General Manager referred to is an ICE retainer. An ICE retainer says that there is an individual in custody that they would like the Police Department to hold so that person can be delivered to ICE. The website lists sometime between January 1, 2014, and September 30, 2015, there was one incident in Manchester where an ICE retainer was refused. Chief Montminy contacted the ICE Supervisor in Hartford, who has been there for 20 years, and did not remember any occasion where Manchester law enforcement refused to cooperate with the federal government. It could be something as simple as we no longer had the individual in our possession when the retainer came. For example, if an individual is arrested for DUI and before the ICE retainer arrived, the person is turned over to Vernon because there was an active warrant for the person. We would no longer be in a position to turn the person over to ICE.

Director Eckbreth questioned what happens if a police officer pulls over an individual in Manchester for a traffic violation and they were undocumented. She noted there was a difference between undocumented and refugee status.

Chief Montminy responded that a Manchester Police officer would never know. If the person produced the necessary paperwork (license, registration, and insurance card), he or she could get a ticket and then they are on their way. Under those circumstances, there was no reason to ask someone for their status.

Director Eckbreth asked what would happen if someone were arrested for a criminal offense.

Chief Montminy replied that unless the arrest was based on an immigration issue, or if it came to the officer's attention this person was here illegally, there would be no reason to ask for their status. He has been in the Police field for over 30 years and he has had it happen once where a person openly admitted that they had just arrived illegally into the country. It is not a serious issue in Manchester.

Director Eckbreth questioned what the process is when federal authorities are looking for a particular individual.

Chief Montminy answered that typically, a federal agency will call stating that they are looking for an individual whom they believe is in Manchester. We then review the warrant and assist in taking the person into custody.

Director Eckbreth asked if the Police Department would have any interference with an individual who was having their court case in the Manchester courthouse and an ICE issue came up.

Chief Montminy responded no.

Director Eckbreth confirmed that there is a courthouse in Manchester which handles cases from all over Connecticut, not just Manchester, and that the Manchester Police did not have jurisdiction in those cases.

Chief Montminy agreed.

Director Eckbreth believes there is confusion about what a sanctuary city means. She noted that the Police Department is under no federal laws to act as an immigration agent and to apprehend individuals because they are in this Town illegally.

Chief Montminy affirmed that there is no legal requirement for local law enforcement to do anything. If we come into knowledge that an individual is illegal, then there are certain requirements under federal law.

Director Eckbreth questioned if we had traffic stops where we checked people.

Chief Montminy answered no, we did not.

Director Eckbreth asked if a refugee or an undocumented immigrant were injured or involved in an accident, would we respond and treat them the same way we would any other resident in our community.

Chief Montminy answered that is correct.

Deputy Mayor Hackett asked if there was anything we needed to do to pursue the source of this misclassification of our Town.

General Manager Shanley responded that when asked, the Center for Immigration Studies in Washington D.C. which is listing Manchester as a Sanctuary City on their website, indicated we would need to provide information explaining what our policy was that would make us NOT a sanctuary city.

Mayor Moran suggested leaving it alone.

General Manager Shanley concurred.

Director Devanney wanted to clarify that there was not a direction to police officers to search for illegal immigrants.

Chief Montminy felt this was a nonissue.

Mayor Moran believed one of our greatest assets in our community is the diversity of our community and he is very proud of that.

B. Other Reports - NONE

7. PRESENTATION OF BID WAIVER REQUESTS - NONE

ADOPTED – Motion to suspend the rules and move Item 11B to the Agenda at this time.

Hackett/Eckbreth

Nine Voted in Favor

11B. **APPROVED** - Approval of a resolution in which the Town of Manchester agrees to extend the existing lease for an additional 24 years and to subordinate its interest in the building known as 1146 Main Street, also known as the Bennet Housing building, to implement a loan from Webster Bank in the amount of \$1,785,000, the proceeds of which financed the capital improvements made to the Bennet Housing building during the past two years and to authorize Scott Shanley to execute any required documentation on behalf of the Town.

Gates/Kissmann

Nine Voted in Favor

Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil introduced **Mr. Arthur Greenblatt**, president of Vesta Corporation, and **Mr. Tom Robinson**, president of Bennet Housing Corporation, representatives of the two general partners that operate the Bennet Housing complex.

In response to a question by **Director Irish**, **Mr. Greenblatt** explained that he had been personally involved since 1982 or 1983 when he met with Bob Weiss, a former Town Manager, not long after the school closed.

Director Irish questioned if Mr. Weiss came up with the idea of housing.

Mr. Greenblatt explained that Mr. Weiss told him that the Town was interested in developing affordable housing for elderly citizens.

Director Irish asked if Vesta had the responsibility of renovating the entire facility.

Mr. Greenblatt answered that Vesta was considered to be the developer partner. Vesta hired a construction company, Associated Construction, which is still in business today. Vesta oversaw construction during that period of time, and utilized historic tax credits to bring investors in to make up the difference between the loan amount and the total cost to renovate the property. The ownership entity, which was a combination of Bennet Housing Corporation, Vesta Corporation, and the outside silent investors hired First Hartford Suburban Realty to manage the property.

In answer to a question by **Director Irish**, **Mr. Greenblatt** noted that the occupancy rate has been excellent.

Director Irish asked if any other major renovations were done on the building after the initial renovation, and up until most recently when \$1.8 million went into it.

Mr. Greenblatt replied that nothing major was done. An amount of money was put away every year into a reserve replacement fund, which was overseen by the mortgage lender, to replace refrigerators, worn carpeting, etc. He did not recall any major system that had to be replaced.

In answer to a question by **Director Irish**, **Mr. Robinson** noted the subcommittee became active again in December 2011. Bennet Housing Corporation served as the liaison for the tenants to communicate to the Board of Directors what the needs were and to begin to fashion a plan to address concerns.

Mr. Greenblatt added that during that period, a Vesta representative attended the various meetings, prepared budgets every year, and oversaw management.

Director Irish noted that \$1.8 million was spent in a very short period of time. He thought the Town was not made aware of that expenditure until after the expenses were completed.

Mr. Greenblatt disagreed. He believed the Town was made aware of it very early on. He attended a meeting in Town Hall with members of the Bennet Housing Corporation and different representatives from Town administration. A few days later, we conducted a walk-through of Bennet and spoke to many tenants.

Mr. Robinson confirmed that there had been a series of meetings with the Town. We fully participated with the Town as far as the needs and the prospect for developing a loan to get the funding.

Director Irish asked if there was a benefit to the Town from owning this apartment building.

Mr. Greenblatt responded that the Town owned the land and technically, the building is owned by the ownership entity, Bennet Partnership. The building was in need of repairs and the Town administration, Bennet Housing Corporation, and Vesta Corporation agreed to start right away. It took approximately 14 to 16 months to complete. The benefit to the Town is that it continues the reason why the Town wanted to do this in the first place. There are 45 high quality apartments with rents that are below market. If a tenant moved in and in two weeks realized that this was not for them, the tenant would be let out of the lease. Re-renting is never an issue because it is so well taken care of. Rent increases have only gone up whatever it took to cover the upcoming year's budget. It is what the Town wanted 30 years ago. The appraised value of the property is about \$2.5 million. The loan is approximately \$1.8 million so the loan to value ratio is very reasonable.

Director Irish asked about the return on investment.

Mr. Greenblatt responded that there has been no cash flow whatsoever to the investors over the years. The investors realized tax benefits in the first year that were created by the historic tax credits.

Director Irish asked if taxes were paid to the Town.

Mr. Greenblatt answered yes, there is a payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT).

Director Irish questioned if it is annually.

Mr. Greenblatt replied no.

Director Irish assumed that there were no taxes being paid at all.

Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil responded that the lease provided for PILOT payments. Over the years, they had fallen behind on several occasions. He believed that they were almost current with the PILOT payments.

Mr. Greenblatt added that part of the proceeds of this loan will go towards a tax payment to the Town.

In answer to a question by **Director Irish**, **Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil** explained that the PILOT payments due under this lease are the same as if the building was fully assessed to a regular taxpayer. The only difference is interest does not accrue on any outstanding balance; otherwise, it is dollar for dollar on what the normal assessment is and the normal tax rate.

Director Irish asked Mr. Robinson if the subcommittee was aware of the PILOT payments falling behind.

Mr. Robinson responded that the subcommittee unanimously moved to have the refinancing include a component to bring the PILOT payments current.

Mr. Greenblatt added that the PILOT payments were in full accordance with the terms of the lease that was entered into in 1983. Bennet was never in violation of the lease.

Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil clarified that the building is leased to the partnership. The Town owns the land and the building, and there are two separate leases. There is a lease of the land and a lease of the building to the partnership. In the lease the partnership has the right, based on their rental payments, to mortgage the interest in their building without having to come to this Board for any reason. However, Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil noted that the original lease, which ran for 40 years, was due to expire in six years. He contacted Mr. Greenblatt and asked if the lease expiring would be an issue for the bank in giving the partnership a \$1.8 million loan. Mr. Greenblatt answered that the bank requested the lease be extended for 24 more years to match the term of the loan. In the lease, there are options in 2023 for the tenant to exercise two additional 15 year options without having to come to this Board. Basically, what is being asked of the Board is to let the tenant exercise that option now rather than waiting for 2023 when they could, unilaterally, exercise that option.

Director Irish believed there were two options. We could go to 2023 and obtain a five year ARM, or extend the lease now.

Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil suggested that the Board take this opportunity to restructure the lease by exercising the two 15 year options now, but possibly putting a cap on it at 24 years from the original expiration.

Director Irish was concerned with the PILOT payments not being made and having fallen behind in the past. He felt the Town did not have any protection should this happen again.

Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil felt it was a function of the ongoing management of the property.

Mr. Greenblatt noted that Bennet Housing Corporation has to agree to allow rent increases to make sure that the PILOT payments are paid.

Mayor Moran asked Mr. Robinson, as Chair of the Bennet Housing Corporation, why he felt this should move forward.

Mr. Robinson noted that if the Town maintains the policy to provide great housing in a historically significant, structurally sound building for the elderly on a fixed income, it costs money. For a 34 year period, \$1.8 million does not seem like an unreasonable amount of money to keep that facility in good condition. Tonight's action, from the Bennet Housing Corporation's point of view, is to consummate the transaction that made the funding possible by extending the lease, and to allow the bank to collateralize the property in order to put a 30 year loan in place. He felt it has been a success, and their bipartisan board was 100 percent behind the project and fully endorsed tonight's action.

Assistant Town Attorney Tim O'Neil read the following from the lease:

"In the event there are insufficient funds to pay all of the PILOT payments due to the Town, the landlord agrees to defer the remaining balance due until there are sufficient funds to pay the same.....in good faith, the tenant will seek to raise rents in order to catch up on the PILOT payments, but they are not allowed to raise the rents any more than 6 percent annually."

Mr. Greenblatt added that they have never increased the rents by 6 percent.

Mr. Robinson noted that the only increase he could recall was a \$25 increase in 2014, and that they needed to be sensitive to the ability to pay by the tenants.

Director Gates attended some of the Bennet meetings, visited with tenants, and walked around the building. He felt the building had turned around incredibly, and was now an example of a very well-run senior housing complex.

Director Eckbreth understands that there are guidelines for low income housing, but she would have liked the Board of Directors to have greater authority than a 6 percent increase. She felt that 6 percent was very low.

Mayor Moran felt the building had come a long way, and he appreciated the hard work of the Bennet Housing Corporation.

Director Devanney agreed that the 6 percent increase was low, but did not see issues with the PILOT payments being made if managed well.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS (formally advertised)

8A.Appropriations to Special Projects as follows:

1. Public Safety – East Central Narcotics Task Force \$17,000
to cover all off-site operating expenses and ECN equipment costs to be
financed by the annual contributions from Glastonbury (\$8,500) and
Vernon (\$8,500).

2. State Asset Forfeiture Account \$11,895
for continuing narcotics investigations, equipment, and/or training to be
financed by proceeds from narcotics investigations.
3. Youth Service Bureau – Enhancement Grant \$7,550
to be financed by a grant from the State of Department of Education.
4. Youth Service Bureau – Play On! Project (12/6/16 to 6/30/19) \$250,000
to be financed by a grant from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving
for a collaborative project with Enfield KITE (Key Initiatives to Early
Education) to support the Play On! project.
5. Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (10/1/16 to 6/30/17) \$15,341
to be financed by a grant received from the Connecticut Department of
Public Health.
6. Manchester Animal Control \$600
to be financed by donations from Helen and Stanley Sowa (\$100) and
Kathleen Dasilva (\$500) which are gratefully acknowledged and accepted.

Mayor Moran opened the floor for public comment at this time.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Moran opened the floor for Board Members’ comments.

There being no further comments, Mayor Moran closed the public hearing on the above items.

B. Appropriations to Education Special Projects as follows:

1. Parent Leadership Training/Parent Trust Fund Grant (FY 16/17) \$27,500
to be financed by the State Education Resource Center/Connecticut Parent
Information and Resource Center to train parents, grandparents, foster
parents and others to become skilled advocates and strong voices for children.

Mayor Moran opened the floor for public comment at this time.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Moran opened the floor for Board Members’ comments.

There being no further comments, Mayor Moran closed the public hearing on the above items.

C. Appropriation to Capital Improvement Reserve

1. Manchester Road Race Donations \$5,000
to plant new or replace distressed street trees in and around Downtown
to be financed by a donation from The Manchester Road Race Committee
which is gratefully acknowledged and accepted.

Mayor Moran opened the floor for public comment at this time.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Moran opened the floor for Board Members’ comments.

Director Irish requested a report on what the Manchester Road Race Committee annually donated to the Town.

General Manager Shanley replied that he would be able to provide a report.

Mayor Moran noted they have helped with the Downtown cameras and with the steeplechase track at the high school.

There being no further comments, Mayor Moran closed the public hearing on the above items.

9. CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 8B and 8C removed and Item 12K added)

Director Jones requested that Items 8B and 8C be removed from the Consent Calendar and voted on separately so that she could abstain based on her participation with her place of employment and volunteering with the organizations.

Director Eckbreth requested Item 12K to be added to the Consent Calendar.

8A.Appropriation to Special Projects as follows:

1. Public Safety – East Central Narcotics Task Force \$17,000
to cover all off-site operating expenses and ECN equipment costs to be financed by the annual contributions from Glastonbury (\$8,500) and Vernon (\$8,500).
2. State Asset Forfeiture Account \$11,895
for continuing narcotics investigations, equipment, and/or training to be financed by proceeds from narcotics investigations.
3. Youth Service Bureau – Enhancement Grant \$7,550
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5. Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (10/1/16 to 6/30/17) \$15,341
to be financed by a grant received from the Connecticut Department of Public Health.
6. Manchester Animal Control..... \$600
to be financed by donations from Helen and Stanley Sowa (\$100) and Kathleen Dasilva (\$500) which are gratefully acknowledged and accepted.

12A.Appropriation to Special Projects (under \$500) as follows:

1. Police Donations Revenue Account - Manchester Police Explorer Post..... \$90
to be funded by dues.

12B.Approval of Tentative Agreement between the Town of Manchester and the Fire Union, Local 1579, International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO.

12C. Approval of the waiver of mechanical permit fees by a reimbursement of the \$1,302.38 previously paid for HVAC upgrade work at the Army and Navy Club, 1090 Main Street.

12D.Acceptance of resignation of Joe Diminico (D) from the Cheney Brothers National Historic District Commission with a term expiring November 2018.

- 12E. Acceptance of resignation of Michael Darby (D) from the Redevelopment Agency with a term expiring November 2020.
- 12F. Acceptance of resignation of Timothy Devanney (D) from the Redevelopment Agency with a term expiring November 2018.
- 12K. Donation of retired MPD vehicle to CERT.

Galligan/Jones

Nine Voted in Favor

10. ACTION ON ITEMS OF PUBLIC HEARING

8B Appropriations to Education Special Projects as follows:

- 1. Parent Leadership Training/Parent Trust Fund Grant (FY 16/17)..... \$27,500
to be financed by the State Education Resource Center/Connecticut Parent Information and Resource Center to train parents, grandparents, foster parents and others to become skilled advocates and strong voices for children.

Gates/Galligan

Eight Voted in Favor
(Director Jones abstained)

8C. Appropriation to Capital Improvement Reserve

- 1. Manchester Road Race Donations \$5,000
to plant new or replace distressed street trees in and around Downtown to be financed by a donation from The Manchester Road Race Committee which is gratefully acknowledged and accepted.

Gates/Eckbreth

Eight Voted in Favor
(Director Jones abstained)

11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Appointments to Boards and Commissions which have members with terms expiring in November 2016:

<u>Board/Commission</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expiring</u>
<u>Commission on Human Relations, Elderly Services and People With Disabilities</u>	R -Joe Young, 103 Autumn St (D)	November 2019

Gates/Kissmann

Nine Voted in Favor

R-Nicole Easley, 2 Alpine St (D) November 2019

Gates/Kissmann

Nine Voted in Favor

Housing and Fair Rent Commission **A**- Collins Johnston, 4 Grandview St. (R) November 2019

Eckbreth/Devanney

Nine Voted in Favor

12. NEW BUSINESS

- G. Appointment of a member to the Cheney Brothers National Historic District Commission with a term expiring November 2018 to fill the vacancy left by Joe Diminico (D) – **Mary Dunne (D), 117 Adelaide Rd.**

Gates/Eckbreth

Nine Voted in Favor

General Manager Shanley suggested Item 12H be tabled.

- H. **TABLED** - Appointment of a member to the Redevelopment Agency with a term expiring November 2020 to fill the vacancy left by Michael Darby (D).

Gates/Eckbreth

Nine Voted in Favor

General Manager Shanley suggested Item 12I be tabled.

- I. **TABLED** - Appointment of a member to the Redevelopment Agency with a term expiring November 2018 to fill the vacancy left by Timothy Devanney (D).

Gates/Galligan

Nine Voted in Favor

- J. Discussion of consideration of televising Redevelopment Agency and Board of Directors Policy Briefing meetings

Mayor Moran received information from the Redevelopment Agency (RDA) that they were not in favor of televising their meetings.

General Manager Shanley confirmed that the RDA would prefer not to have each of their meetings televised because they felt that there was not a lot going on, but they were open to doing a videotaped briefing update. He then introduced **Mr. Gary Anderson**, Director of Planning.

Mr. Anderson agreed that the televising of the RDA regular meetings was not going to be very helpful as their conversations were ongoing over time. The RDA suggested taping a briefing to be shown on Silk City TV. As an alternative, the Agency members were willing to attend a Board meeting and report on their activities.

Deputy Mayor Hackett appreciated the thought and consideration of the RDA on this issue. She was very satisfied with the options presented, and will look forward to the RDA reporting at more regular intervals or based on new developments.

Director Devanney spoke with a few members of the RDA including the current Chair, and they were not in favor of televising, but there was definitely some thought put into it. He liked the suggestion when Deputy Mayor Hackett first presented the idea. He believed it would be satisfactory if the RDA attended a Board meeting to give an update, possibly once a quarter or when a big development happened with their partner, Live, Work, Learn, Play.

Director Eckbreth thought the issues that the RDA discussed in their meeting were valid. She does think there needs to be an opportunity for the community to see what work was being done. Director Eckbreth would appreciate a quarterly or biannual report.

Mayor Moran also supported a regular update from the RDA.

Mr. Anderson agreed to convey that to the RDA.

Mayor Moran directed the conversation to televising the Policy Briefing meetings.

Director Irish asked for the discussion of televising the Policy Briefing meetings because there was only one meeting a month. It was his understanding that under the Charter, the Board was supposed to meet twice a month with the second meeting being the Policy Briefing meeting. In order to maintain transparency, he thought it was important that the citizens of Manchester see what we were talking about and not just rely on the printed word of the newspapers. He felt the Board received a lot of important information from the department heads. During his previous term on the Board, those briefings were held in open session during the second meeting of the month.

Mayor Moran clarified that two Board meetings are scheduled according to Charter every month. If there were enough agenda items, a second meeting was held.

General Manager Shanley added that technically, it was one meeting, just scheduled over two nights. The Policy Briefing did not substitute for the second session of the Board meeting.

Director Eckbreth noted that the Policy Briefing meetings were not held in Lincoln Center, but in the Manchester Room in Town Hall. If they were to be televised, the meeting would have to be moved to Lincoln Center. Director Eckbreth questioned if staff would be available at 7:30 a.m. to film.

General Manager Shanley responded that staff was not typically here at 7:30 a.m., but could make arrangements and that would not be an impediment.

Director Eckbreth commented that it was difficult for individuals to attend a 7:30 a.m. meeting. If it were televised, it would give them the opportunity to view it at their convenience. She was not opposed to the idea, but was curious what other Board members thought.

Director Devanney was not opposed and thought it might be worth a try.

General Manager Shanley noted that at one time the Board's budget deliberations were like the Policy Briefing meetings, and now they are videotaped and broadcast. He stressed that if the Board decided to go ahead, it would not be able to go back because it would look like something was being taken away.

Mayor Moran stated that the decision did not have to be made tonight as it was a discussion topic. As for being transparent, he noted that the Policy Briefing meetings are open to the public and usually the press is there also. He thought it was a little less formal in the morning without cameras. As the Chair, it would give him more control of the meeting. Mayor Moran felt it would be fine to continue the discussion and make a decision next month.

Deputy Mayor Hackett added for consideration if there was an objective that was originally sought by having the morning meetings.

13. COMMENT AND DISCUSSION BY BOARD MEMBERS ON ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA OR OF GENERAL CONCERN

Director Galligan asked for clarification regarding whether the decision to use the Broad Street location as a temporary landing site for the Lifestar helicopter would be made by the RDA.

General Manager Shanley responded no, it would not. The RDA was discussing the idea first, and eventually it would be the Board's determination. The reason for the discussion was because the high school would like to no longer have it for a variety of reasons. He agreed with the hospital leadership to see if there was another viable location near the facility. The hospital had looked at the top of their parking garage as a possible location, but there was a lot of sand whipped around with the helicopter, and with the cars in the garage it did not make practical sense. General Manager Shanley suggested that the RDA consider looking at the Broad Street location as a temporary site. He suggested to Mr. Anderson to add it to the RDA's agenda to discuss.

Director Galligan was curious about the site after reading in the Journal Inquirer that there was no reason given for moving the landing site from the high school. Director Galligan requested frequent updates on emergency services issues as it was one of the Board's central responsibilities.

Mayor Moran hoped that the Board would look for a permanent solution, not just a temporary one.

In answer to a question by **Director Irish**, **General Manager Shanley** responded that Lifestar lands approximately once a month.

Director Irish thought the high school was concerned about their Astroturf field.

Mayor Moran agreed that the wind and pellets were a concern.

Director Irish suggested Lifestar landing on the practice fields which are behind the football field.

General Manager Shanley was open to a subcommittee to discuss where it should be located.

Mayor Moran appointed **Director Irish** and **Secretary Kissmann** to a subcommittee to find a permanent solution. He added that our goal is to develop the Broad Street area, not to always make it a temporary site.

Director Eckbreth agreed. She explained that the issue was directed to the RDA because the Board sanctioned the RDA and Recreation to have a say over what events happened on the Parkade site while development was happening. It was not given to the RDA randomly. She felt that the Chief of Police and Fire Chief should be included in this discussion to see what sites they would suggest.

Mayor Moran felt there should be further discussion with emergency services at the hospital as well.

General Manager Shanley acknowledged that he would ask the Fire Chief to staff the subcommittee.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned until the March 7, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors at 7:00 p.m. in the Lincoln Center Hearing Room.

Hackett/Eckbreth

Nine Voted in Favor

Adjournment: 10:23 p.m.

lm

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Secretary, Manchester Board of Directors