

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES  
ANNUAL MEETING  
SIXTH TAXING DISTRICT  
City of Norwalk  
Rowayton Community Center  
March 2, 2011  
7:30 p.m.**

The Annual Meeting of the Sixth Taxing District of the City of Norwalk was held at the Rowayton Community Center on March 2, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. (E. S. T.) Registered voters were checked in by L. W. Woodworth.

Commission Chair Tammy Langalis called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. Mrs. Langalis introduced herself, Commissioner Mike Barbis, Commissioner John Igneri, District Treasurer John Verel, District Administrator Jack Robson, District Property Manager and Fire Marshal Ed Carlson, Assistant to the Treasurer Nancy Heubeck and District Clerk Andrea Woodworth.

Mrs. Langalis proposed that former Commissioner Randall Avery be named Moderator for the meetings and that Andrea Woodworth be named the Secretary for the proceedings. Motions were made and passed to accomplish this.

Mr. Avery opened by saying that the Sixth Taxing District of the City of Norwalk, as stipulated in its charter, holds an annual meeting of the electors in the Sixth Taxing District. This is the only time that the electors officially meet unless there is a call for a special meeting to deal with a specific issue.

Mr. Avery asked if anyone had an objection to a waiving of the reading of the minutes from the Annual Meeting and the Annual Budget Meeting of 2010. Hearing no objections, the reading of these minutes was waived.

Mrs. Langalis gave the following Report of the Commissioners for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

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July - 2009

The residents of the 6<sup>th</sup> Taxing District enjoyed a successful fireworks event at Bayley Beach which was attended by 2,500 people. This was just one event in a good summer. The Rowayton Historical Society dedicated the historic pavilion at Bayley Beach with a plaque identifying its earlier use as the "Roton Point Roller Coaster Platform c.1914". This dedication occurred on the Fourth of July.

Speeding cars on Roton Avenue remain an issue in town. The District sent letters to all of the clubs at the beach asking them to remind their members to please obey the traffic speed limits. The Commissioners asked Community Policing Officer Joe Jensen to patrol in that area as frequently as he could. Officer Joe was successful in obtaining the speed trailer on numerous occasions. The presence of this speed trailer seems to be the only effective method for slowing the traffic. The Commissioner sent a letter to the City asking that the 25 mph speed limit in effect there be changed to 15 mph. Our request was denied as unenforceable.

1024 beach sticker applications were processed.

Mrs. Langalis met with a representative from the Connecticut Department of Transportation to discuss accepting federal stimulus funds for certain repairs at the Rowayton RR Station. They had determined that wheelchair ramps needed to be replaced and they indicated their intention to install gutters on the canopy over the platform. As of this time, none of this work has been accomplished.

434 RR permits were issued on the renewal day in June. The balance of available permits was offered to the Wait List.

The lease between the Sixth Taxing District and the Rowayton Historical Society was finalized. The RHS is now operating a museum in Pinkney House which is open on various occasions and during published hours.

New citywide recycling rules went into effect. The District and Rowayton Elementary School are cooperating with programs in support of this additional recycling.

A new rack truck was delivered to replace the old one. This was very good timing as the old truck finally failed to start on the delivery day of the new one.

A lawsuit was brought against the District and Shakespeare on the Sound by a woman who had fallen in Pinkney Park following a performance in July 2007. The suit has just been settled.

This was the first season that SOS installed the fence in Pinkney Park prior to their performances. This caused a great deal of controversy among the residents of the District. Many of the concerns raised were addressed the following year.

The grills at Bayley Beach were relocated to a fenced enclosure on the western side of Bayley Beach for safety reasons. The parking lot at the beach was striped.

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August 2009

There was no Commissioners' meeting this month. The Farmers' Market continues to operate in Pinkney Park.

September 2009

Repaving work was done at the Community Center. The CT DOT reported that the bridge repairs at the Rowayton RR Station should be complete by January 2011.

Bayley Beach had a very good season.

District employees continue to keep our properties looking good by clearing weeds, mowing grass and trimming trees, among other duties. Two waste containers were installed in town - one at the Ambler parking lot and the other at Farm Creek.

October 2009

The Commissioners met with the auditors, ODMD. They were pleased that we had hired an assistant treasurer who can handle the books should something happen to our treasurer. Otherwise, the audit indicated that everything is going well.

The Long Term Planning Committee has been meeting on a regular basis and planning for repairs and refurbishment at the Community Center.

The October meeting was the last one for Commission Chair Ed Kweskin who had served as a Commissioner for 17 years.

November 2009

Commissioner John Igneri was introduced as a newly elected Commissioner. Tammy Langalis was selected as the new chair of the Commission.

New recycling rules were presented by Suzanne Breyer and Christine Smith from the Rowayton Girl Scouts and also representing Rowayton School.

A presentation was given by Phyllis Padro of the Rowayton Gardeners describing the collaborative work to clean up the duck pond at Rowayton School. Work will be done cooperatively with the Gardeners, the Norwalk DPW, Rowayton School, local businesses and with financial support from the district.

Representing the dog field users, Gail Jaques suggested that they would raise funds to repair the deteriorating fence which separates the dog field from the rest of the Community Center property.

The Long Term Planning Committee, represented by Rob Frazier, Mike Stein, Joe Carter and Megan St. John, made a presentation of their work to date and their suggestions going forward for the Community Center buildings and grounds.

The Community Center and grounds continue to be used heavily on a daily basis and continue to require maintenance and careful upkeep.

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December 2009

The long-awaited tree work at the Community Center began with the removal of dead trees and the pruning of damaged limbs. There is a long term tree plan in place which we are trying to follow.

The new pumper truck for the Rowayton Volunteer Fire Department was ordered.

January 2010

The Commissioners were presented with our annual audit which we passed with flying colors.

Shakespeare on the Sound presented its season wrap up. Although the fence was a source of concern for many, residents realized the benefits of the fence once they had attended a performance.

Library Board member Jim Frayer gave a presentation to the Commissioners. He stated that the library has been in existence for 106 years (not all in this location) and continues to serve the community with books, DVD's and programs for all ages.

Cynthia Johnson, library director, has sent a United States flag to a Rowayton service man in Iraq. The flag has been flown on several missions and will be returned to fly at the library (which it now does).

February 2010

The U. S. Census Bureau used the Community Center for administering tests to potential census workers as well as some census worker training.

Geese have been invading Pinkney Park and, after much discussion of possible solutions, a small wire fence has been agreed upon to keep the geese at bay.

March 2010

The budget report for Fiscal Year 2008 - 2009 was heard and approved. The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2010 - 2011 was also approved.

April 2010

Resident Doug Bora spoke about the possibility of the district's improving and installing brick sidewalks along Rowayton Avenue and Cudlipp Street.

RCA member Chris Sovak reported on the summer concert series planned for Bayley Beach and Pinkney Park.

The issue of replacing the Bartlett pear trees took a surprise turn when the City and the State told the District that they would remove and replace the trees at no cost to the District. This accelerated the rest of the master plan for replanting trees at the Community Center. The City DPW also offered the District a very good price on replacing the old Norway maples with new sugar maples.

The City also informed the District that the bridge to Bell Island will be replaced

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in kind in 2012.

May 2010

The Commission was approached by residents to use Bayley Beach for early morning yoga classes.

Bob Pettus had requested the addition of "Birthplace of the Business Computer" to the Rowayton entry sign. It was discovered that the Gardeners were responsible for that sign and they were not in favor of changing it. Hopefully, a new sign identifying the Community Center site as the place where the Remington Rand 409 was built will be placed somewhere on the Community Center property.

June 2010

The Rowayton Power Squadron will donate a teak bench and picnic table to Pinkney Park. After many years of service to the boating community, the squadron is disbanding.

Dick Schock, one of the Railroad guards, made suggestions for improving parking ticket procedures and violations at the Railroad station in an effort to keep things running smoothly.

The District reported a change of insurance carriers after Commissioner Igneri researched the subject.

The Tokeneke Bridge (aka White Bridge) is scheduled for demolition by the city after years of controversy. The District is advocating for construction of a new pedestrian footbridge in its stead.

Mrs. Langalis closed her report with a big thank you to all the many residents who donate so much of their time to our community. She also said that work will begin around the middle of April on the restoration of the slate roof, gutters and associated wood work that was approved in a vote taken at a special meeting. She also reminded the community that we have received a state grant to help with this project. The Long Range Planning Committee is in the process of reviewing the bids for a contractor for this work. It was announced that we have a new Community Policing Officer, Mike Silva, who replaces our long time Officer Joe Jensen.

The Annual Meeting of the Sixth Taxing District Commissioners was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andrea Woodworth  
Secretary for the Annual Meeting

