

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY MEETING

April 29, 2010

The meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee was called to order by co-chairman Mary Keller at 7:30 p.m.. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Co-Chairman

Attendance was taken.

The minutes of last meeting were read and accepted. There were no comments or corrections.

We had a discussion about complaints.

We discussed resolution 79 concerning a local law amending Article IX of the City Charter entitled "Dept of Public Works" Section C9.30 Duty of Abutting Owner to repair and maintain sidewalk and for removal of snow and ice within the Code of City of Newburgh. This Article transfers liability to abutting owner and read as follows: It should be the duty of the owner or occupant of property abutting a street, highway, travelled road, public lane, alley or space to make, maintain and repair the sidewalks and curbs adjoining his or her land and keep such sidewalks, curbs and the adjoining gutters free and clear of snow and ice and other obstructions. Such owner or occupant shall and each of them shall be liable for or to any persons injured or injury and/or property damage by reason of commission, failure or negligence to make, maintain and repair such sidewalks and curbs and to keep such sidewalks, curbs and adjoining gutters free and clear of snow and ice and other obstructions and the City of Newburgh shall not be liable. The local law takes effect immediately when it is filed in the Office of the New York State Secretary of State in accordance with Section 27 of the Municipal Home Rule Law. This is State Mandated. Fines should be given if law is not followed.

There was discussion about a resolution passed by City Council to purchase the former Armory for a dollar. It is the hope that some City Departments will be moved there.

There was also a resolution to create an urban garden on a city owned lot at 59 Chamber St. This garden would be used to create a community of youth leaders, to provide environmental and nutritional education, beautify community and produce organically grown nutritional food for low income families and individuals and to produce a safe space for youth to learn about environment and Urban Farmers League.

Frances Cott made a suggestion about one of the Chapters of Americorps for a committee to set up a business to clean up graffiti.

Mary Lewis mentioned The Youth Advocate Program (YAP) at 280 Broadway sets up business and it is run by 14-18 year olds who work 10-20 hours. They could help people shovel snow or mow lawns. We will try to get someone from the group to speak at one of our meetings.

Block associations could also have block party and clean up every month.

There will be a pride parade with all kids on May 15.

There are two other resolutions Ordinance No. 3 entitled Delano-Hitch Recreation Park and Resolution No. 77 for Funding for Façade Upgrades and Renovation of Ritz theater that were not fully discussed at this meeting but maybe can be discussed at May meeting as old business.

We will try to get City Manager and Tom Daly for May meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Keller