

March 09, 2010

SHELTON COMMUNITY GARDENS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES



**SHELTON COMMUNITY GARDENS AD HOC COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING Tuesday, March 09, 2010
9:00 A.M., ROOM 104 SHELTON CITY HALL**

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
2. PUBLIC PORTION
3. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. APPROVE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2010 MEETING
 - B. SITE DISCUSSION
4. NEW BUSINESS
 - ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRPERSON
5. DISCUSS SIZES AND NEEDS (UTILITIES, SUPERVISION/MANAGEMENT, WASTE DISPOSAL, PLOT DESIGNATIONS, ETC.)
6. PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT (WHAT HAS TO BE DONE,, WHO WILL DO IT AND WHEN AND HO MUCH WILL IT COST)
7. PLAN TO MANAGEMENT ITS USE
8. PLAN FOR PARKING
9. PLAN FOR SECURITY
10. RULES FOR USE
11. ANY OTHER ITEMS
12. ADJOURNMENT

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The Regular Meeting of the Community Gardens Committee was called to order by Chairman Mary King on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 9:00 am in Room 104 of Shelton City Hall, 54 Hill Street, Shelton, CT 06484.

The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Guy Beardsley
Camme Kemp
Mary King
Linda Hooper
Teresa Gallagher
Stacia Monahan

Absent was: Allison Menendez

Also attending were:
Sharna Kozak
Jill Wakeley - 22 Longview Road
Randy York - 10 Longview Road
Barbara Murzin - 23 Longview Road

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS RECITED

2. PUBLIC PORTION

Jill Wakeley of 22 Longview Road spoke I have a couple of questions from Jim from Jim Betris of 22 Longview Road because he couldn't be here because he had to work. He took a half day off because of the February 9, 2010 meeting so he sent me with a couple of questions for him. One question is at the February 9th meeting, we all requested, not just Jim, but we all requested an evening here because of the 9:00 am hour that this meeting is being held and we wanted to know why are our request is being ignored.

Well, that is why we had the meeting last night. Yah, but you already took your vote. You took a vote on February 23, 2010 unanimously saying that you are recommending the Longview Plot would access through Longview. So we wanted to know before you voted, we wanted to have an evening meeting, we wanted to know why you ignored our request?

Committee stated my understanding is when we picked the meeting times, it's so some of our members here could not meet during the evening because of work schedules and stuff so they showed..... Jill Wakeley talking over speaker and I couldn't hear the end of the sentence from the committee member.

Jill Wakeley spoke we asked for a special meeting obviously to address our concerns because there was only seven of us here at the time that they make a 9:00 am meeting and Jim took a half a day off from work and it doesn't look good in the light of the public. It's not a good, it presents itself to the public. It's making yourself available to hear their concerns.

Committee stated well, you can always you know send letters, call, email them.

Jill Wakeley stated were here, we were here.

Committee stated I mean if somebody can't attend the meeting it's not like they can't comment, they could still comment. All the comments my intention here is we are going to get to that in a minute. My intention is that everybody that sends comments email or in letter or whatever format that those will be put into the minutes so they will be on record. That's what I requested.

Jill Wakeley stated have they been put into the minutes so far?

Committee stated that's what we're going to be discussing on this section of the minutes. That is next on the agenda because they haven't been and this is something that because I have made a motion that this is it the last CD? That so that the February 9 meeting that all comments be consertive and haven't been consertive yet. But that was the motion I made and it that was approved. So the minutes were only approved with provision that those comments were place in the minutes.

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Jill Wakeley stated we don't appreciate the fact that you went straight to the vote without addressing that issue. That's my comment. On this sheet, the traffic assessment that you handed out last night, it says here that the CT Community Garden Association was queried a number of times the average plot is being garden assisted per feet and it says a representative of the association who has a Masters in Garden Ethal Management conducted the survey. Jim's question was what is the name of this person that you contacted?

Committee stated off the top of my head I can't tell you, I have to look that up.

Jill Wakeley stated we would like for you to put out information regarding this person. Also, we wanted to know is it a formal written study or was it a phone call study at thatsomething mumbled not clear on tape. Because we would like to contact that person and get a copy of their report, the study report.

Committee stated I have sented the person by going through, they have a web site and an email address and that was sented to. So, that's if you sent it to them, you will get the same person.

Jill Wakeley stated ok so we are requesting that report. The other issue actually Jim had, was that the 1.2 times visits per week kind of be like 1.2 times pregnant or 1.2 children that was my ?. According to your figures, even at 1.2 times visits per week, that still needs according to your numbers 72 trips per week, up and back is 144 cars going by our homes. We're homeowners just like you and Linda and Stacia and Mary everybody else here. That's even at one trip per week which even Stacia said that one trip per week is not realistic when you're making a garden. She said even in the beginning four to five times a week you need to get your garden going and come back up.

Committee stated well that is the average. You know, not everybody is going to do as much as they should.

Public lady stated I have a question additional edit and I'm ? my garden? Someone is Talking over her.

Committee stated a real dedicated gardener probably will go more than average but some people will go less than average. So that is what the average means.

Jill Wakeley stated that the survey results says that 1.2 times visits per week. Is that an average per year or season

Committee stated no per season.

Jill Wakeley stated how many weeks were figured in the season?

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Committee stated you would have to talk with the person.

Jill Wakeley stated was it 52 weeks or was it 26 weeks or was it 20 weeks?

Committee stated while the garden is active.

Jill Wakeley stated ok well we would like to know that how that average comes up someone coughing can't here end.

Committee stated I didn't come up with that. Basically my goal was to go to the outside and try and find some sort of number from the outside.

Jill Wakeley stated you're making your case though that this ? accurate numbers and we should put ? couldn't hear was cut off.

Committee stated it's the best that we could find. If you can find another survey that you know. You know otherwise, we are all just making up numbers out of thin air and we have no idea. You know you so, I think people should go this many times a week, but I'm looking for data. I'm looking for something more solid than conjecture.

Jill Wakeley stated I think people need to ? we need to water more than once a week?.

Committee stated I have a garden too, and I don't water it that often and I do that for once every couple of weeks.

Jill Wakeley stated that Jim and I did a some research on the Killingworth Community Garden that you are representing here on the 50 plots.

Committee stated I'm not representing it.

Jill Wakeley stated the total number of visitors at any one time a representative of the Killingworth Community Garden Who contacted this person?

Committee stated I did.

Jill Wakeley stated Ok has 50 plots stated here. Ok so what we found out online is that if a garden was created in 2008 with 26 plots then it was expanded in 2009 with 50 plots. For the current 2010 year it now has 62 lots plus three 40x40 lots. We're seeing track record of expansions ok which doesn't make us happy. Also, Killingworth has an average population of 6,500 people. Shelton has over 40,000 people. We're worried about expansion plans for this garden. In one meeting you can say you have 30 plots planned, the next meeting you can unanimously agree that well there's more interest so now there is going to be 60. Well, then in a year, well there's more interest now 120, 240. We have 40 acres to work with. We are

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concerned about the possibility of it expanding and the traffic quadrupling even. We have no guarantees, we have no guarantee even if you guarantee it because you can make another ? it could double and triple the size of the garden That is a real concern. Where can you be? It's like you and you and you. Ok we are just concerned about all the traffic that's going to be going by our home. It can turn into the highway.

Committee stated did you do any research on the Milford Gardens? The one on ?

Jill Wakeley stated I visited the garden, I haven't done any? Several people talking and can't hear tape clear

Committee stated has it been expanded?

Jill Wakeley stated I have no idea.

Committee stated that is appears it hasn't been expanded. I went out there and took pictures of here's what that garden hasn't expanded. Not clear

Jill Wakeley stated the last question I have is. It was mentioned that last night it was mentioned. ?some mumbling not clear. I think it was ? not clear or actually it was you Teresa when you were standing up there at that post you were saying that the Wisak property has been eliminated because it's a little too wet because it's been reserved for ball fields in the future. I believe that's a direct quote. So we wanted to know there's 40 acres on the Claptick property. At this time, are the other sites being reserved for any other purpose in the future?

Committee stated You mean on the other fields on the ? talking at the same time unclear?

Jill Wakeley stated right now you want to put in a garden.

Committee stated are you asking about other open spaces or other parts of this open space?

Jill Wakeley stated I'm talking about the Clapick property.

Committee stated I don't know of anything. I don't know of anything that's planned. But parks and rec, they makes their own plans.

Jill Wakeley stated but you were very open about coming down.

Committee stated Wisak if they were always, that was a big thing. That's one of the big reasons they bought Wisak because they wanted the ability to put more ball fields in for the High School. The lower fields are right next to the High School and those are the areas that have the good soils according to the state maps. There are some upper fields which are very hard to access and you know those are more available and that's why ? we are on this because we're routing the budop

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trail through there eventually and we were asked to keep it up towards the top of the hill so that we were away from the areas that might become ball fields one day.

Jill Wakeley stated So we just learned today ? child coughing and not clear are there any other sites being reserved for some other purpose?

Committee stated I am not aware of anything. I can't speak for parks and rec.

Mr. Beardsley just said a little while ago in private to us that ? petplay along here is going to be or could be, you're planning to make an entrance come off ? Long Hill Avenue because of this area here. That your temp your idea of a temporary access through Longview Road is just temporary. That you are going to be making access through.

Committee stated We don't really know. That's going to be decided by the Mayor and the Board of Alderman.

Jill Wakeley stated so therefore, the entrance to Longview may not be temporary?

Committee stated we don't know, we're just saying this is going to defend the Mayor and the Board of Alderman want cause that would require the expenditure of funding. We don't have a budget here at this committee. They would have to make that decision.

Public stated Perhaps it could wait for another year.

Committee stated they are going to make that decision.

Public stated you can work with the community and you can work with a neighborhood to raise funds to make an access here permanently and take your time, slow down and get this done the right way to make everyone happy. There's not that many people. If this is a liable opportunity, we will be right there with you raising money, selling bricks whatever like the dog park. We could sell the brick walkway for that.

Committee stated Now's the time, I was just speaking with Cindy the Mayor's secretary and she was saying the Mayor is going to meet with I don't know exactly who, but some people from the neighborhood had called him. I don't know if you guys are on that list, but he is planning on meeting either Saturday or this week. He asked for to set up an appointment. So definitely you should bring all these things up with the Mayor because you know we are advisory here and all of those decisions about the access way. That's up to the Mayor and the Board of Alderman. We're taking direction from them in terms because that requires funding.

Public stated Which reminds me. Child talking over and can't hear tape good. The conversation commission passed a law unanimously to look into other access points for this. Has anyone done that so far today? Not clear with child talking.

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Committee stated No, we just got the minutes for that. That's going to go to the Mayor and possibly the Board of Alderman again because they're the ones to do that. That would come from their direction. We are not engineers. We can't design a road.

Public stated In your paper titled "Shelton Community Garden Committee" Shelton Community Garden headings neighborhood notifications, it's asking from this paper that the commission met on March 3rd and passed this notion to look into other access points.

March 3rd?

Is that conservation ?

That was conservation.

Your making a series of events here.

That's Community Garden Committee.

I think that's important.

Committee stated That has to do with neighborhood notification because and there, this quite frankly really upset me, in News Channel 8 nobody notified us because I'm the one that sent all those notifications. Look at all these letters over and over and I have detailed records of what was sent where.

Public stated We have a newspaper article that was written that you are no longer looking at Longview Road.

Committee stated that was incorrect. He gets everything wrong. I called him up and told him that we have another site we are looking at. We are looking at both sites now. Which was true.

Public stated we have an article in the paper and we have an email that stated here that you were turning your focus away.

Committee stated That is absolutely true, we did.

Public stated Damage control with this. I think that you really did want to look at the lot which is logical.

Committee stated We did and that was because of the feedback we got from the neighbors. That was a ? So we did look at that and the initial reaction was hey this might work. This looks pretty good. But, then we started to look into it a little deeper and it didn't look like it would work. So then, we went back to site A and that's the process. We were taking it into consideration the

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feedback that we were getting. We looked at it. We said ok let's look at this and it didn't work out.

Public stated There's no documentation of that discussion anywhere. There's no tape and there's no mention of your discussion in the minutes. So you have no documentation that that discussion took place.

Public stated Why was it dropped?

Committee stated Well we had a list of pros and cons. Someone is talking about their name spelling and talking over them. Can't understand tape. There's a list I don't have it.

Committee stated February 23rd, we have a site in here in the minutes. We discussed these pros and cons at that public meeting. It's right here in the minutes. Who made a motion there?

Who got that copy?

Public stated I'm sorry Teresa, there's no documentation in your discussions. Randy York 10 Longview Road. The first thing I'm going to say I'm testing your minutes of February 23rd. There's no documentation of our communications in those minutes. There's no documentation of your discussion prior to listing your pros and cons. We have no idea what you guys were saying during your discussion. We have, this is my personal warning to you. There is a federal investigation going on right now in New Haven concerning corruption in this town on city boards commissions of undue influence of elective officials and city employees actions before commissions. I am powering you as individuals sitting on this commission that your opinion is what counts, not Teresa's. Teresa's here to guide you and direct you, but she should not be engaging with the public the way she is now as a chairman. That's your power at any point to stop that interaction and any undoing wrongs from the city to make your decisions child talking and not clear, and I'm asking you to please in light of what's going on in New Haven which is extremely important to this community. There's a federal investigation going on of undue influence for years into the operations of boards and commissions in this city. You are the committee. Ok

All talking at the same time. Unclear. Man whispering, it was my understanding.

Public stated All insinuating, that because they are sitting as just basic people trying. We were told unclear....several talking at same time. Let me talk, let me talk please.

Linda Hooper stated No, it's my turn to talk, you are accusing us not clear lady is talking at the same time as Linda. Linda stated I work here too. So you are insinuating that I ?

Public stated I had asked that you change the time of your meeting. We know several people had asked you. I had to rearrange my schedule today from work to be here today. We asked you

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9:00 is not a good time for us to get here. We are stick holders in this project. When the city had problems with blasting and the board of alderman formed an adhoc committee to address the blasting issues, they made sure the blasting interests were represented on the adhoc committee. Where's the representation on this committee from our neighborhood? Which is going to be directly impacted on this. Where's our vote? Where is our discussion?

Linda Hooper stated Right here, right here and last night.

Public stated Where's our vote?

Public stated someone from the neighborhood should have been invited or whoever wanted to be added on the adhoc committee should have been invited from the very beginning to be here, ok. So I am not, I am simply, what I'm not saying this to infuse you of anything. I'm trying to empower you to separate yourself and please be independent minded and realize you have the right and the obligation as committee members so listen to the people that come before you from the public our concerns should be taken into consideration in your decisions. And I'm telling you as a member of the public that right now there's no evidence in any of your minutes that we can see that our concerns from Longview Road were taken into your consideration and that's an issue, that's a big issue. It's a serious issue and I know all the reasons why, but I'm sorry this is official city business as business needs to be conducted properly and appropriately, always and there is no excuses. Ok that's number one. So, I'm contesting the minutes. There's no documentation of our concerns in the minutes. And I really want to know what happened at this table on your meeting of February 23rd and I have no way of finding out because there is no tape and there are no mention, details of the discussion. That's number one.

Public stated Number two, I would like a copy of just the addresses of the streets of the people on your list who are interested in the community garden. I don't want to know names, street numbers I just want streets that they live on. That's important information to us. And also, please let me go on the records that we are again asking representation on this adhoc committee. We need to be sitting at the table with you discussing this. If you decide to change your focus to the Wisak property, then people who are going to be immediately effected, if that's your plan, they need to be sitting at the table. They need to have a vote in your decisions. On that list that you have, are any of them farmers who are going to be registering for plots?

Committee stated I doubt it, but I haven't seen the lists.

So no farmers are going to be using the land. Someone is coughing and talking over person and not clear.

We just found out yesterday after four attempts that the Mayor did get back to us. We tried four times to have him sit down and have a meeting with us and this goes back weeks. He finally called us yesterday after Channel 8 contact him. He finally called and said he'll meet with us although he didn't give us a time. He needs to look at his calendar. So they are asking that you

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will call any further action on promoting this plan or pushing it through the approval process until at least we sit down and talk with the Mayor ourselves, ok.

Public stated The traffic study I think is entirely unrealistic. You're changing the character of our neighborhood, that is without a question. You're bringing in cars that normally would not be driving down our street and we need to relook at your traffic study that you proposed to the public last night because it was extremely misleading, it's underestimated, car numbers are what's hire talking to gardeners so we want the traffic study relooked at. We don't buy that one.

Need professional? Hard to hear on tape

Or did you say you are done with this? Hard to hear on tape

Committee stated Talk to other community gardens in the area, find out from the neighbors talk to the neighbors find out what the traffic is like those are the people that are really being impacted by this. So talk to people who live next to community gardens. They're going to be your best source of information.

Public stated I know we are being painted as being ? unrealistic ? ? up on a hill who don't want people driving through our road. That's entirely untrue. That's been open access to the public for the twenty five years I lived there. Even when it was Clapik property, they let people walk on it, we have people who drive down our road all the time to take hikes on that property. We have people in the neighborhood, our road has a lot of walkers on it, almost as much activity as Long Hill Avenue in the summer time. Before that hay gets too big, once the hay gets big, it prohibits people from walking through there. But in the fall and the spring, it's already open access, public open access up there. The property is used by the public. We get a lot of foot traffic on our road.

Public stated Teresa have you ever heard one complaint from the neighbors about the public using that property in all the years that you have been conservation agent?

Teresa stated yes, this lady seems to think?? Yah there are people going in there ? people are parking on my lawn, no that is city property. Too many people speaking at once on tape.

Committee stated We can clarify that, when the road was built and the cul de sac was put in, the cul de sac is partly owned by Mrs. Murzin and partly owned by Carol Dane so part of that cul de sac is Mrs. Murzin's property and part of the grassy part is actually several people talking and it's not clear.

Committee stated If you look at road and you extend just the road not the cul de sac, just the road that is city property that's typically what they do in cul de sac, they use property owners to make property to use to use the circle. It's in the deed that once that road is extended, if and when that road is extended, Mrs. Murzin's property rights go back to her and Carol Dane's property rights go back to her. Therefore, we need to look into that because right now that entire length of that cul de sac is being used by the school busses to be able to turn around. If their properties return back to them and the city has no right to use the cul de sac, how are the busses going to turn

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around? But that's another issue. That's a possible legal issue that if we continue to feel threatened as we are now, we possibly could pursue legal action on that end.

Committee stated The site criteria of which I got a taste of last night, I don't believe it's community based site criteria. I went out by myself and got a community garden guide that was put together by UCLA. And one of the, they listed set site criteria also one of which is that the garden should be within walking distance of the people that use it. So there's all kinds of site criteria out there. And, we want to know who designed our site criteria? What documents did they use, not one of this other guides that I looked at sited prime farmland as a requirement for the site because any soil, farmers can verify, any soil, almost any soil can be amended to support a garden with use of raised beds, you can bring in good soil, you can put smaller neighborhood community gardens closer to people's homes and take almost any vacant lot build a raised bed and support a garden. So why is prime agricultural soil on your list as site criteria? I question the logic behind that. It seems to defeat the whole purpose of allowing people to have gardens. Any gardener and myself and you if you want to pick a tomato and a head of lettuce and some basil to make a salad that night, you don't want to have to drive across town and there's over a hundred thousand cars that come into that Old Stratford Road, Bridgeport Avenue intersection that people from Huntington would have to cross to get to their garden in the evening. I think that's just the reality of our world here in Shelton. We have a tremendous amount of traffic. My parents live in Huntington and I live in Long Hill. I do not go to my mother's house in the morning during rush hour traffic or in the evening from 4:30 to 6:30 because there's no way that I can get over there. It takes me 45 minutes to take a 10 minute drive. We are also supposed to be looking at reducing traffic, not increasing traffic. These are things that planning and zoning commissions have been mandated by the State of CT under new development suggestions that are not laws, they're not mandates, but we have guidelines by the department of environmental protection that we should not be willfully creating high traffic generating projects. We need to be creating projects that reduce traffic trips, not increase them. Which once again brings us back to all the paper suggestions, we need to look at micro gardens dispersed throughout the community that's going to be within walkable distance or a very short drive for most people who want to use the gardens and that is why I'd like to see a list of where is everybody coming from. Let's see if we can do something for these people cluster them in a way, maybe have a 15 plot up on Plavik farm. I don't think too many people are going to argue with the traffic from a 15 plot garden. But you're talking about 60 and more, you should expect our position in the neighborhood. You're putting in a high traffic just rating use and you're changing the nature of the neighborhood, you should expect opposition. If we did it down on one of your streets, your neighbors would be manning together and trying to get it stopped.

Excuse me for one second. Jill Wakeley from 22 Longview Road. I spoke about a term before. We are asking for an independent traffic study to be conducted. A professional independent traffic study to be conducted. Paid for by the ?city

Jill Wakeley stated So you are changing the character of a neighborhood, your creating a high traffic generating use. Let's get a list of the people that are interested. Find out where they live.

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If I sat at that table, believe me that's what I'd be encouraging everybody to do. Let's all get together, who wants this garden? What can we do to make it most accessible for them? Use a little piece here, a little piece over on 108 and Nells Rock Road, a little piece on Soundview, a little piece on the whatever French Farm then you're getting people in White Hills, Huntington, and what about poor downtown. These are the people that I think you should be focusing on also and giving them something in their neighborhood area where they could put up 15, 20 plots. And then another option is rather than individual plots, some communities have found that this causes a lot of problems for the plot holders and they fight and they steal from each other and it turns into problems. Sometimes one bigger plot for the neighborhood works out better. Where the volunteers come together, they form a garden association they monitor their own plot, they take ownership over their own plot. They work together and then they harvest together and they share the harvest. So that's also an ?. It's not going to work in a big huge garden obviously, but it could work in a smaller garden. And I think that's about it.

Several talking on tape. Someone stated are we allowing children at these meetings? Public woman stated babysit? If you want me to leave, as a volunteer I will leave.

Someone stated I want everyone to concentrate on what is being said.

Lind Hooper stated We're fine. I have to say two things. One on? We were told there was a lot of interest in a community garden. Would you girls, who would like to be on the committee? Ok fine. The three of us here are farmers. This is our busiest time of year coming up. None of us have any time really to do this. The last thing I want to do is start coming and trying to prepare a community garden. I got my own farming garden to do. But you know it was going to be what they ? community we thought and I think it still can be. I'd like to iron out these problems we have. We are very upset when we get this much opposition which is fine. That's not a problem, we'll work on it. But the other side of it is, I don't want that insinuation of what's going on in New Haven that were part of any of that. We are just dumb little volunteers that thought we were going to help get us a community garden to make people happy. We're not getting anything out of it. Public lady talking over Linda. Number two. Linda stated I am speaking now. I am talking now. I let you have the floor when you talked, now let me have the floor while I talk. The February 23rd minutes, there was a problem. It wasn't intentional. We came to our meeting, our clerk, I'm being honest having an emergency. We started our meeting so I could start taking the minutes. She showed up 45 minutes later, she didn't have the tape with her or the tape deck just printed. It wasn't done on purpose, believe me. It just, I didn't get any forewarning that she couldn't be here. Several people talking, not sure of what was said.

Someone stated that's true.

Public stated Could you could have cancelled your meeting at that time? It was also snowing quite heavily at that time. Did you have the option of cancelling your meeting and scheduling it to a better time and maybe saying that someone at the committee saying, no those people from the neighborhood would want to be at the meeting, it's snowing outside, we don't have a tape, we

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don't have a clerk. Why don't we reschedule it in the evening and invite the people from the neighborhood to be there? That was an option. You need to be careful of public perception because it's like the titanic. When you see, one little mishap here, one little mishap here, one little mishap here, the community is trying to find out what you are doing and it. Someone else talking over, not sure or word. You don't want that to happen to this. This is a wonderful issue. You don't want that to happen and was not insinuating that you were, I was insinuating that because of what happened, it could be perceived and you need to be very careful of that.

Jill Wakeley 22 Longview Avenue stated has a legal question to ask. On the deed to the property to the Clavik's, when the Clavik's sold the property to the city, was there a stipulation of ? child talking not sure of word saying that they would only sell the city the property if there was access by Longview Road and not through their property. Because it's my understanding that the Clavik's sold the property to the city for use of their children. That was their initial desire. Did they also stipulate that there must also only be access through Longview Road? Someone stated No. Because it's I don't think so and we you know already have an official document that says that. If you sell a person's land near your homes that are presently there for use for children for the city, then you can't just assume that there's not going to be access to it. Or demand access by Longview Road and not access through your own. If they were worried about access to this property, they should of made a stipulation that when they sold the property, that no entrance would be made through Long Hill Avenue. So it's perfectly legal to be able to make that, I don't know why they're opposed to making on an entrance through Long Hill Avenue when they did not care how that property was used as long as it's used for children. They didn't say ? they didn't say do not use Long Hill Avenue for an entrance. There was no ? there.

Barbara Murzin 23 Longview Road stated I agree with everything that you said, but what I'm saying is that it's too fast. What I see in such occurring, do it right. Why does it have to be this year? Make things right instead of changing them later. I have a map here of the City of Shelton for four miles from the Stratford border, there's no way that we're centralized. Last night they said there was a central area.

Someone else said Central, not for the a whole geographic area of Shelton, but of the where the high density residential developments are. You shade all of those in, it's fairly central to them.

Barbara Murzin stated well we are only four miles from Stratford. I think it would be more in the center of town than it's going to be one. But I think everything is still being rushed too much. That we should wait and make sure everything is set up, water, entrance ways, has that been surveyed other than the cul de sac yet to find out how much room you have there to put up a on a ?

Someone said Survey, do we have to survey it, no.

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Barbara Murzin stated well how do you know how much land you have there then to make and entrance way?

It's 40 acres you know.

Barbara Murzin stated an entrance way from Longview Road. How wide is that entrance way going to be, do you know how much room you have there.

Yes it's in the filed maps.

Barbara Murzin stated but do you actually know?

Off the top of my head, exactly how wide it is, no.

You mean the gates?

Barbar Murzin Iriquois Gas put up, when they put the gas line in because they kept going in and out. They put up that gate. Before that it was just a fence.

It's plenty wide for an access road. Is that what you mean?

Barbara Murzin stated but are you going to just have it go away? One if there is an emergency in there, somebody had a heart attack in there or something you have to have emergency vehicles be able to get in there

Someone said like an ambulance. It could get in.

Barbara Murzin stated it should be traffic so that it's both ways in and out.

It would be both ways. You mean you're talking about two separate roads?

No no no. A driveway.

Barbara Murzin stated Well, I still think the whole things being rushed too much. That's the whole problem. We have so many questions and so many things to settle. Why does it have to be this year? You just started it in January.

That's what we were asked to do. The Mayor asked us to form a committee and he said see if it's here. That is what, we were just given the task to assume.

Barbara Murzin stated it's being rushed too much.

Well, talk to the Mayor, they're the ones that make the decision.

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Before you go talk to the Mayor, he says I'm just doing what people told people said they want is a community garden. What are you blaming me for, I'm just doing what they asked for.

Several talking over each other. You start spinning people around and they end up getting upset with the city and so I think we just all need to come to the table and start from the beginning again and rework the whole thing and take a look at the whole thing. I don't think personally being an alderwoman myself at one time, I don't think your documentation for the work that you've done so far is anywhere near being ready to go to the board of alderman and give them a true assessment of what's going on because right now with the documentation, if I was an alderwoman and I was reading, and I wanted to bone up on the issue so that I could make a decent knowledgeable vote and I read your minutes. I think this was a wonderful thing. everybody wants it. It's a wonderful thing. There's no documentation of any of the concerns or how they've been addressed and I think that's important because you want to give them an opportunity to make a knowledgeable decision unless it's already a done deal.

It was in good and said, too many talking at once on tape and can't understand.

I would like to know personally how each one of you feel about it. I tried to find out that by reading the minutes. I was hoping that the discussion of February 23rd, would show what each members personal feelings are and I'm still interested to know that. Not just what your vote was, as a group with no access to any of the discussion.

Guy Beardley stated Did you all attend the first meeting we had in which Randy York was so hopeful? Were we all here at that time? That's Randy? I didn't recognize you Randy. Sorry about that. Did you change your hairdo? I have not made a whole lot of comments. I've been listening, I think your points are very well taken and it's definitely incumbent upon us to listen as opposed to making any major opposition points. Right now, we got to take everything into consideration. I am enjoying the circumstances because it's the way government should work, the way democracy although were not democracy, we claim to be, but were not. So anyway, thank you very much for your comments so far. I hope we listen.

Lady stated I think it all boils down to too much of a rush. We got to get answers and if they had come into the neighborhood when they first started and they knew that they wanted the garden, they come into the neighborhood and talk to the people and we wouldn't have all this stuff.

Linda Hooper stated well when you say this it's too much of a rush, I understand what you are saying and the only reason we were trying to rush along is because people did have an interest it we thought, if the garden is going to be this year, we have to have everything in place for the April ? So we tried to hurry along thinking that's what everybody wanted so we can get a plan for this year. Everybody else was pushing us and made a fast ?

New speaker ? have to do it so fast. Because if it's something you have to think about, and it has to thoroughly be planned it out.

Can I just also just say something for the record. Just so you know, it's not just us. This is just a news article about community gardens in a city called Tracy California. They're known for their community gardens and opposition from the areas they were going into the city officials listened to the people who were opposing it and changed their plan. There is nothing unique to Shelton, community gardens come with a host of problems for the neighborhood.

I want to thank you for bringing up all these ? baby talking again can't hear tape.

Back to Old Business

3. Old Business

Linda Hooper stated Well, I'll have to make a motion to table minutes because they weren't...? Guy Beardsley seconded it. Guy stated Do you think I could get those minutes shortly soon? Someone stated Sometimes when I email it doesn't go through until I shut the computer down and the next day I will go back in and it will say it's sending message whatever of whatever.

Someone stated the February 9 minutes have still not been updated that motion. So that needs to be updated and we need to get those distributed to everybody by emails. You know what, you say you are emailing and we are not getting it. Can you make us a hard copy and get a hard copy to me and Linda so at least we have a hard copy and then we can always scan them in and send it to the web master. The web master isn't getting them either. Is there something going on here because I'm not getting it, Linda is not getting it and the web master is not getting it.

I noticed down here you have about uh planned for security that's important living right next to it. **Talking isn't clear at the end of tape 1.**

Beginning of Side B of tape 1.

Mary King stated We're going to close the public portion. Guy Beardsley seconded it.

Do we want to do a little?

What we should do is have a very few brief executive summary. So can you give me some points for the Mayor? Very short bullet points.

Just to summarize anything that going into this meeting that he should be aware of if you're for or against whatever access ways or anything.

Linda Hooper stated I was just going to say, the only thing I got out of this is the access ways. If everybody's gone against the garden, it's just how ...?

I think there is more opposition than that. There is information on the traffic assessment.

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Linda Hooper stated But that's all....? If you didn't vote...? You were somewhere else ? access. Very low voice on tape and can't understand. Perhaps we should suggest many smaller gardens.

New speaker stated the thing is they're doing many smaller gardens I think it's going to be five small gardens it's five times as much work as one big garden.

Several speaking. Then although in the future in my mind, if we got to the point where we can expand, I would like a second garden someplace else. I think that would make much more sense. That's just me we are not there we are not in the future. You know we are not at that point, but it's in the back of my mind. I would like to have instead of having one in the city but two. Not five, not a bunch of little ones all over just because of the practicalities of it would be overwhelming. We are not in an urban area of vacant lots that we can just plant you know soils...? Baby talking. Water access, and all that neighbor notification and what we're going through with garden. We have to go through it with another garden. It would be the same process all over again. That's in the back of my mind.

Speaker says I think the main point is the access.

Committee It seems to be and access is the primary and if we summarize the comments you know the access way is the number one comment and you know there is potential for an access way which the Mayor knows and already suggested it right up front. That's a possibility, he's not committing to it. But you know we might recommend to explore which is what conservation commission is doing. Recommending that the city explore other access ways because we aren't traffic engineers. That's beyond our abilities. Say where the access should be for the long run.

Linda Hooper stated so do you want to bullet that the main objections to Longview? Several talking do not understand tape.

Committee Yes, bullet the comments.

Guy Beardsley stated so far I would think Teresa we have not heard anything positive about the garden from any of the public comments we've gotten. I mean there may be some references to it's a good idea to have a community garden but specifically on the Klapik property we've had nothing but negative comments. Regarding traffic, regarding access.

Committee stated It seems to be primarily traffic and access.

Guy Beardsley stated and property ownership too because Mrs. Murzin owns part of the cul de sac that we would have to get into and that we were not aware of and a very specific request for a traffic study which is usually very expensive and long term too because it takes a long time to take the traffic from one part of the year to the next part of the year.

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Several talking traffic, security, and neighbors.

Guy Beardsley stated that I think it is important to have a public meeting that we could actually have a public meeting. I know you're going to try to reschedule it. So I think we really can't go much forward until we have a public meeting.

New Speaker to reschedule the public meeting informational meeting in the evening because of all of the budget meetings the auditorium it's really difficult to get not this Friday, next Friday, and then Thursday the 25th at 7:00 pm.

Guy Beardsley stated do we have time for the...?

Committee stated These are all at 7 pm, the auditorium will be available these are the next three days that it's available. Generally people don't have meetings on Fridays, I asked and he said you can. People don't usually do it, there is a custodian there. The twelfth, nineteenth and twenty fifth.

Several talking on tape.

We got the main, basically we got the main neighborhood comments that we've received which summarized that the number one is traffic by far and that do you want to recommend that an alternate access is explored or does somebody want to motion it, how do you want to?

Voices are low. So we recommend, yes. Does somebody want to make a motion?

Guy Beardsley stated that I'll make a motion that we recommend the pentway yes, puts possible pentway access to the area that would e from Long Hill. Stacia seconded it. She lost her voice, she raised her hand.

Committee stated Conservation also is going to be recommending it to the Mayor...unclear? Is that a good idea? I don't think that the Mayor and the Alderman are going to go for that because they don't like to ever have restrictions on what they can or can't do on the property.

Comment from someone is low.

Right exactly.

60 plots even though Allison has what 53 in the gardener. It's clearly possible ...? You don't know someone else stated I know back to original person because there are plenty of people who all have good intentions that they have in starting up a garden and they just don't get to it and there's always plots even in a garden when you....? Several talking at the same time.

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Was it Killingworth? What was the garden 25 to 50 to, I'd rather not get into a situation where it just keeps growing every year. I'd rather say this is the garden that's it. And then 10 years from now or 5 years from now or whatever and there's been a big huge backlog and people are screaming for more. Then we will look at another thing. Part of that is a tentative plan is to put a deer fence around it and that's a pretty big endeavor. This not something we're just going to keep going in and keep moving it. That's you got to put in these posts and it's a fair amount of work. We did it for Eklin Garden and it was a lot of work.

Another speaker said actually 60 plots is very doable. I mean in a small town 36 plots, the garden I work in even those...low voice and the population is 7,000 or 8,000 and there's two gardens the same size, there's 70 plots in them. There's two gardens close by each other. They don't always take ...? Talking low There's always a couple that go through the entire season.

Another speaker I don't know if maybe this is a little out of term, but you know for the site plan, I know when I was looking at the Milford garden, they had in the corners, they had like some picnic tables in the shade I think you can sit at. Are we going to have some place like that? But you know maybe not all the plots are... whatever? some in the corners.

Speaker I think that's definitely a distant option. I think if you start picnicking, then there is going to be litter and I think that we should not. If you bring in litter, then you take it out. There is no garbage barrels or anything, no plastic bags that tossed around the field. Little six packs, you know what I mean the plastic things all that goes out, no litter. And I think if you provide picnic areas you can't get rid of. You can tailgate on your own and then your litter stays in your car.

Someone is talking low, not clear on tape. And just going through your rules on that garden and I think we should be...? I see garden rules ...? We should outline. The thing I see is...? The other piece I see here too is garden rules, is it 20 days, 30 days, 60 days. And you won't be invited to that or somebody else is going to jump right in.

I'm just looking for more definition ...? Around.

These are general, I mean there's like seeing four different community gardens we all use the same rules.

So can we can we go ahead and...? That there is no room for the ...?

Some low voices can't understand.

I think that's a good idea to have an enlargement clause or rule in it that regarding if it gets made into 60 plots then it's going to only be 60 plots. I don't know how many plots, but it looks even bigger.

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Some low voices going back and forth talking with a child in background.

Well, I would like...? It's a big complex, it got...? and trails and a dog park and mostly all you do is drive around if there is a lot... ?of and pull up and...?, but the whole garden...low voices?

I think...? Is that right?

Once a community garden is set up, I think it's sort of a perpetual thing. A child talking and can't hear the tape. Once you have invested in parameters, fencing, the court committee, a couple of garden meetings who assigns plots, your, it's like there. Established, it's like victory. It's like an extension or...?

Do you want to make mention ...? Garden of basic that what part of towns people are signed up for?

Low voices and several talking. So we can get a feel. The list...So we can go ahead and we can go in by streets and where they fall by district. You can list the streets. List the streets. I think it's, it may be unrealistic to expect a lot of gardeners to walk to their class to gardening. No one walks to the grocery store. Well that's true. Because quite often...? when you go to the garden, you bring a pale, you bring a shovel, you got a rake, you got fertilizer, you might rake in mulch. Maybe people will ride their bike, but most of your trips are probably you're coming with your tools and you want to be able to and you don't want to leave your shovel because somebody else is going to start using it. I just think that you're bringing in a lot of equipment and walk to the garden with it. You might want to...?Very low voice and hard to understand what she is saying here. Child talking along with several other people and hard to hear tape. But maybe they will, and if they want to walk and there are just going to leave maybe they will leave a bucket and then....? baby talking and can't hear. Put it up when you're bringing stuff with you because, ? low voice again. And take your produce home. Your buckets of green beans. When I went to the Milford community garden, the lady was walking with I don't know what she had in there and she shoving it in her trunk. So I'll do that and I'll put this stuff together and I'll do an executive summary....? Yah, it's all pretty much here. So just if anyone sees a site plan, or rules that you want to tweek or change or have a question on.

Someone is talking low and can't hear.

When tomorrow? He's going to want to see that earlier. Paper shuffling.

Your deadlines tomorrow?

Well, I'm going to try and get this done so I can just wrap this up and move onto...? If possible if we can do it here because for the whole...?

Do it here that week?

Yes

Paper shuffling. Baby talking.

Even if we don't have the Mayors going to want to see. Plans...?. Plans to manage. The Mayor is going to want to see that.

Every year there should be two people who are what you call gardening leaders and they're the ones who would ? an application to those who gardened the year before. You know they will probably have the list of present gardeners and they are also the ones who would collect the check and make sure that every gardener reaches the rules and what's expected of them and assign a plot and? go right back to the same spot. ?mumbling It's entirely possible that a gardener might take two plots right next to each other. That's what I have. I've got 20 feet by 40 feet. It's a lot but it's good for me, I mean I get tons of flowers and garlic and ? and green beans and I just want parsley.

Several talking, getting bits and pieces. It should be a gardener. It should be someone who is gardening there because they are going to have a better view of who is baling it or um...several talking.

So basically it's going to be two liters? Yes, and it can change every year. But, I think two liters would be good because they'll um..?someone is talking.

Once we get all the gardeners together, there will be a yearly garden meeting.

Ansonia starts about this time and they have a um a kick off they call it. And everybody meets and all as many who can come meet and they elect a couple garden leaders and they are the ones who oversee and if they see somebody who is not meeting or not even there, then they get a warning and they are just not invited back. And someone else can finish it. If you're are not a serious gardener and going to take care of things then...someone started talking.

So that garden leaders would also give warnings if necessary.

What else? What about? They probably would be the ones, the garden leaders would also be the ones who arranges the dates for plowing and tell everybody that it's going to be done late in April weather dependent. And someone is coughing, can t hear...that immediately after plowing a group should go in and would take measures and throw stakes in 20 by 20 so it's all laid out.

So it's numbered a group will come in.

It should be to make it go faster. You want gardeners to do it. You should involve gardeners in all this and walkways are established at that time ...mumbling?

Guy Beardsley stated and asked how did you identify the plots, just the stake?

I think we threw in sort of a ? or a piece of cardboard stapled to it with a number on it and go around. Once there is a stake at all four corners, you go through them with the numbers or someone's going to have to establish that. What inexpensive ways can you just number your plots? Or they might have an x on it or number. When you assign a plot, you just give them that.

Well then how about in the Fall?

A lot of people grow stuff turnips and harvest potatoes and carrots and...? But we don't know...plowing. But by the end of October, I think it is, you have to know all of your tomato cages, wires, strings, stakes that you've used. All that stuff has to be out of there because April you don't want to be pulling it out and it's got to be ready to...someone else talked

Is that in our rules that everything has to be out by a certain date?

Yes I think it was.

But there is not like a work party in the fall to clean everything up?

Several talking unclear.

It would make everything go real fast if they did do a communal effort of fall cleaning.

I want to know a couple times a year they have someone coughing? That is when they get, that's the only time they get a lot of cars at one time.

Work parties.

I was wondering what those work parties would be for?

I think that's something that the gardeners set up among themselves. One thing we have is a woman who is a leader of the Miss Hopkin's garden lots of noises from baby...? Is organic farmer all alone, she raises chickens she's had rooting beds on her own property. But, she doesn't garden with us and all gardeners don't want that. They want somebody who is there with them. So if we run out of wood chips, that she could call the town. Or the enormous ? in the rock coming in then she could call town and have them throw some gravel on it or she's the one that accessed to the horse menor. Mumbling and not clear...Once got some on it. She makes the call to the stable.

You know you mentioned wood chips, what from the town would we need? That's what they're going to want to know. Are we going to need wood chips or are we going to need gravel or

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millings or something for it? How do we get in for the access way? Just across the grass and get stuck in mud.

Mayor's suggesting for the first year to drive on the grass.

Who is suggesting it?

The Mayor did.

He said no gravel.

For these walkways, between...low voice? Several talking.

Speaker whispering can't talk no voice. If we put up a ? (loud breathing) that's permanent, how are we going to take it down to plow the next year or is it going to just going to be plowed up once and then the individual plot ? can move it down or something else because there's woodchips are not going to ? down too in a year if you plow them under and expect, you are going to be planting in woodchips.

And you are saying for future years. Is it plowing or just roatality? For roatality, you can just do little beds. Is that what's done? I would think.

Baby talking and cant' hear tape. When he tills it and I retill my own...mumbled....? Some people don't want to have to... Well the other...they'll throw in sticks and say no plowing several talking.

It must be roatality.

It probably is. If you had a plow, you couldn't just ? in this plot and this plot and not that plot. So in the spring there is roatality.

Guy stated well those that want raised beds and it's generally recommended that you do use raised beds I don't know if you've had much experience with the raised beds or not, but usually if you got a small plot raised bed, and it would the best way to go. Plowing would just completely destroy a raised bed. Or for that matter, ? would. So but raised beds require a lot of extra work to create as well as to keep.

There are raised beds in this garden, the man next to me has with drangas and a huge bed of....? And they're wonderful. He only grows flowers, he doesn't grow any vegetables. He grows dalias, roses and he never gets...? Someone talking

Plow the first year. Low voice

I'm sure there's going to be people with tillers. You know. That going to be part of the spring is everybody show up and give as many tillers as you can. People will show up.

Well, are you going to have individuals going in each with their own tiller because now you've got a whole bunch of different trips and a lot of you know as to opposed to just we're arranging somebody to come and if you want your plot tilled, let us know and we'll do your plot.

Somebody talking low and now Several talking low. Baby talking too.

Quite honest when the gardeners shift in on those decisions. If one set of garden baby talking hard to hear.. gets fed up then you're going to have a meeting and you're going to talk about how are we going to turn over our soil this year?

Oh Ok

Anybody have tillers? Don't have a tillers, come all at once.

So I'll put a question mark on that to be decided y the gardener.

Yes

Guy Beardsley stated I think initially though, that it should be plowed because there's a lot of rocks that we don't know about and Freddy can sure pull up a bunch of rocks with a plow. That's a fact and then we got to get those rocks out of there, now. Yes.

Ok, so we need several talking and laughing. What about amendments, is this something that each person is going to do themselves or are we going to have a pile of something that you know that we can...someone else said that's something else that needs to be decided.

But they're going to want to have some ideas, going into this with a proposal and they are actually going to want an idea of...well.

Guy stated well are we going to be all organic or are we going to be, I suspect if anybody is organic Beardsley stated would be very upset if somebody is non organic. Right.

And that will be difficult to the least because you can't have somebody watching every move your gardener makes. It's part of the rules and they should understand that when any.. ? stuff in here.

I think that is the important part. Yes, no pesticides, no herbextacides or herbacides. Now if they're using miracle grow what? To some people, organic means no chemical fertilizers. Someone is talking too low.

That's something that the gardener should talk about. What can be used? Should that be in the rules?

That is something we kind of need to establish now and in fact if everybody wants to change it, there could be a vote or whatever. But we can't just keep going to the Mayor and Alderman and saying this is something we need to decide. This is something we need to decide and they'll say well decide it.

I agree, I think it should be outlined in these garden rules, what is acceptable and what's not acceptable. Talking too low to understand. Some of it's organic and some of it's not organic. I think it would be good to look at these guidelines of what is acceptable and what's not acceptable.

Whispering I would say I don't think you probably would not want to use anything because it's in such close proximity. You have one plot right next to each other maybe this person uses stuff and it drifts onto this person and this person doesn't know that it drifted and then they take that stuff home and eat it that day and when they weren't supposed to even if it wasn't organic spray maybe they weren't supposed to eat it for two days. I think it's either all or nothing. I don't think you can have any kind of spray in a community garden. No spraying, no dustings even fertilizers is iffy because then you have... ?,it takes so many days to bring down....neighbors plot. There's a lot of issues with ...?whispering too low.

So how do we amend the soil for a couple weeks?

Whispering Lime, put down leaves.

That's a question, will we have a pile of something that people it's ok to take this stuff.

Whispering too low.....a pile of leaves

Linda stated so no dusting no spraying, no fertilizer, nothing. Right.

Whispering Well I think ...fertilizing and just you don't want to use raw material. Use fresh horse manure You want to make sure whatever if you are using that type of fertilizer, that it's well....too low. several talking and baby talking and can't hear tape.

So no sprays or powders, no manure. If we bring it in, then we know it's a certain age or whatever. If other people bring in then who knows where they are getting it from they were told it's a year old and it isn't.

Whispering but too low said another plot ecoli?

We would...horse manure available at this garden and some of the gardeners want nothing to do with it because it makes weeds and other people reseed them and all that. But, I think it's good amending and I use it and I also go down to the beach and pick up young grass and ? grass and dump it around my tomatoes. It's the best. It breaks it down beautifully and chopped leaves in the fall. I chop leaves like crazy.

Someone said but not oak leaves.

Oak leaves are ok. But I like to chop them up because they rot faster.

Someone said they are very acidic.

But they are all mixed in with maple so just let it go. No oak leaves...? They fall at different times. several talking in here.

Horse manure, is it old? Or is it fresh?

Some of it was like sixth months and they stick a sign in it don't use it until October. So we would want divided piles or something or other even. Coughing into tape and can't hear. Would they be willing to dump a pile there outside the garden? I think you have a lot...several talking. Well broken down leaves we might...more coughing. The city collects....?more talking and coughing. It goes in the same pile because when you go and get some it's not what you think it's going to be. I'm expecting black gold and isn't. I think other stuff gets in it. It's not what you think it's going to be.

Well are we going to set hours? Low talking and can't hear tape.

If it's a hot day, I don't think I would want to be there.

Nobody is there in the middle of the day. Early or late and that is it.

Probably be there in the evening.

Well security, what do you mean by security? What do you mean? Is it a poaching thing? Poaching your patch.

I didn't put it there.

Linda stated that You know why it's on the agenda, it's because John replaced and asked for it.

Ok yes John Anglace. That is right he sent an email at the very beginning saying you know these are the things we need to figure out.

Linda alright we have planned park to park around...not clear. No security. I don't know exactly what that...

I mean we don't throw out the gardener who weeds with his machete. Although he...? he has beautiful flowers.

There's always the option if we need it of having deer cams installed there's some kind of deer cams we are using them for security on the rec ? in an area where there's of a lot of vandalism and spray painting and we have one pointing this way and one pointing that way and the cost was when you added everything up and the extra, the cables, and the cards, and the batteries and all that stuff it was about \$700 a piece and what you have to do is go in and periodically someone has to check the batteries and ? and card memory, it's a memory card and somebody has to put in a new memory card. So they are not remote, you can't see them from ? But then, if something were to happen, you got these cameras. The difficult part about this is, there is like no, you are in this field so you have to install a pole or something a nice big to mount it on so people couldn't remove and that would be the challenge there because maybe in the back of the pentway there is something for the ? I don't know. Several talking and coughing. It would be too easy to....? The fence and posts are going to be strong enough to hold a fence. But somebody could drive in there and bang it with their, you know what I mean? This is actually, we started doing this because the discovery zone park over at Red Mountain in Monroe, they had problems and they got this grant and they did this beautiful ? walk and everything on this new park and immediately somebody went in with four wheel drive and reeking their stuff. So they a got the chairman had a friend who is in the security business and got a couple of the deer cams and put them up real high and as soon as they put those up they never had any problems. We have been testing some things with the security, not vandalism but other things.

Someone said things...? wheels I don't know what they are called.

ATV's there have been problems. I don't know what the field, but down below there have been problems. I've actually been called because there's some neighbors in that area that will literally call me on Sunday afternoon at home and you know we got ATV's. They are very very watchful and they go out and take photographs and watch people and on two separate occasions, we've had the police out going to the homes where we knew the ATV's were coming from and that activity did end. When we know where they're coming from, you know it's easier. The problem is when you don't know where they're coming from and then they're gone and then you're like what was that? There was one just a couple months ago on Laurelwood and I sent a certified letter and the police went to visit the house and they said they were just picking up litter back ther with their ATV. There was a hunter back there, a poacher, the year before and I got the call for that one. The DEP came out and arrested the man and he was given...?

What else do we need to consider about the security?

Several people talking very low. The other piece is about the garden. The gates not even locked now. Which gate are you talking about? The main gate at the end of the road. That's right. That doesn't have a lock now.

Exactly...It's suppose to be closed. Padlock?

But I want to put in a little more parameters around it... low voice. So people understand. What is approved. What the city provides. Is it leaf mulch? Is it...? Too low to hear her.

Or do you want, we could also do only approved amendments and then have a separate list of what's approved. That's another way to do it. Because then we could at least get the you know rules and then get.....? work on that list.

Any other items?

Guy Beardsley stated that I've got a list of about 30 items which came from the Manchester Community Garden that I attended a class this past weekend and so most of which we already have answered. But there might be some things that ? in your mind. Giving out paper maybe?

Someone said full sunlight.

Guy Beardsley stated Yes, we are in good shape on that. Yes

Someone said accessible to future gardens.

What rules will be established in the garden that keeps order and reference...?

How will people being motivated to continue through the summer into the fall? The spring is ? energy and the summer is hot and dry and sometimes discouraging. What kind of resources we'll be needing at the garden? Water, tools, soil improvement...? As far as asking the city to be dumping anything there I think is above and beyond what the city needs to provide. I mean I think if you want chopped leaves, you bring in your chopped leaves. If you want ? several talking...

You bring it in you bring it out. Don't leave anything.

Well if a problem ever comes up, we can add it or ? and parks and rec in that ?

Many laughing and can't hear tape. I think it gets to be a litter free zone and I just think it's part of your responsibility.

Well I didn't think a gardener cares about a person who throw out their trash.

You never know. You would be surprised, you would be surprised.

End of side tape one side B.

Beginning of Tape two side A.

... be great can get childrens plots in there or scout plots. We had Booth Hill School, all the girl scout trips went in together and they were bought and then they called the produce and donated trying to find out who we donated it to.

I want to go to the Spooner House to see if that's if they would be willing to accept....?low voice.

It would be nice we got the like elderly housing. Something more convenient. Just practically speaking.

Across the river. Consider a grant writer to aquire ?.

I do grants too.

For long term, your community grant twice a year and it's going to be they already reserved on of the plots they're...?

These were some of the questions you should ask about community gardens...lots of tapping on tape and can't hear. They were only 100 ? community gardens in America. Now in our ? there are thousands of established community gardens with more sprouting up so rapidly it is hard to keep track of them all. For a list of some of the community gardens in Connecticut, ? resources, just go to ? baby talking and can't hear tape. Community gardens could be large farms maintained by group of shared harvests or a field divided into sections where each person has their own garden or a small vacant lot or other space in a neighborhood where neighbors grow food and improve the neighborhood land. Endless styles of...? Baby talking can't hear. There are so many styles. I've heard that there are some devoted strictly to providing fresh stuff for a soup kitchen. That's it, everything goes to right to the city...? April to October to November, which is wonderful if you think of it, it's good fresh stuff and that's the sole purpose of the garden. There are two minister gardeners who created one in Northern Connecticut and all really raised boxes so that people in wheel chairs can get to them. I mean it's not just raised beds a foot off the ground, it's up there. ? four feet long and two or three feet wide and...? So there's all kinds of styles. Well this is good.

Guy Beardsley do you want to hang onto it?

Sure

Can I make a copy of that to put in here?

March 09, 2010

SHELTON COMMUNITY GARDENS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Anything else?

Guy stated that the just of all this is that we can't go forward very much until we have these public meetings and the Mayor meets with the residence, yes.

And so the next time we will meet will be the 25th at 7:00.

Public information.

Guy Beardsley stated who puts the newspaper articles in on the newspaper alerts in on this you know? This was covered by, but it was covered by I think Kate Ramooney by just within her article about it and so that is how most people knew about it. But I know we posted on here the board because it's going to be a meeting, but it needs to probably get put in the newspaper again.

You mean the public meeting.

Guy Beardsley stated yes, right someone else is speaking at the same time and unclear.

Oh

Guy Beardsley stated that was good, that was really nice Teresa. Yes.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct,

Motion: A motion was made by Guy Beardsley to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Linda Hooper. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.
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The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elicia A. Sullivan Clerk

2 TAPES ON FILE WITH THE CITY/TOWN CLERK.