

**Town of Needham
Board of Selectmen
Minutes for June 14, 2011
Needham Public Services Administration Building**

6:45 p.m. Informal Meeting with Citizens: No Activity.

7:00 p.m. Call to Order:
A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was convened by Chairman Maurice P. Handel. Those present were Gerald A. Wasserman, Daniel P. Matthews, John A. Bulian, James G. Healy, Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick, and Recording Secretary Mary Hunt.

7:00 p.m. Accept Proposed Precinct Boundaries:
Tedi Eaton, Town Clerk appeared before the Board to present proposed precinct map and boundaries. She asked the Board approve the re-precincting map, boundaries, and blocks. Mr. Wasserman clarified the re-districting is for voting purposes only, not for re-districting schools.

**Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board approve the re-precincting map, boundaries, and blocks as presented by the Town Clerk.
Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 5-0.**

7:00 p.m. Council of Economic Advisors/Beer and Wine Evaluation:
Devra Bailin, Director of Economic Development, and Damon Borrelli, Member, CEA appeared before the Board to discuss the possibility of allowing the sale of wine and/or beer in Needham. Mr. Borelli gave a brief background on the issue and stated the CEA has received several inquiries from potential entrepreneurs interested in opening a beer and/or wine store in Needham. Mr. Borrelli said the CEA established a Beer/Wine Shop Subcommittee to determine whether there is public support for such uses. Mr. Borrelli asked for direction from the Board of Selectmen about the possibility of conducting a public opinion survey.

Mr. Healy commented the Town is anxious to pursue any economic activity that may help the downtown area. He said the issue must be given to citizens for input, as it is a tough to gauge whether people want beer and/or wine shops in Town. He suggests holding a public hearing or gathering information through a questionnaire.

Devra Bailin commented on the economic issues and said specialty beer and wine shops tend to attract other types of specialty food stores. Ms. Bailin pointed out that Needhamites who buy wine and beer spend their money in other towns, which does not benefit Needham.

Mr. Matthews asked why the CEA decided to not use the statutory referendum process in favor of the home rule petition. Mr. Matthews said he feels the

statutory process is a better way to go and suggested the CEA hold a public hearing to determine whether the license should be beer/wine or all alcohol.

Mr. Bulian agreed with Mr. Matthews with respect to following the statutory guidelines. He commented most people in Town might support the issue but the process needs to be followed. He asked whether allowing supermarkets to sell beer and wine was being considered.

Mr. Wasserman commented on high end wine stores and how they draw people in from other towns. He also said he is not in favor of an unscientific survey, but believes hearing from residents is important.

Mr. Handel said it is important for the Selectmen to have information on the economic value of the alternatives for the Town of Needham.

Mr. Matthews suggested referring the matter to the Town Manager who can work with the CEA and Town Counsel, then report back to the Board of Selectmen at a later date.

7:30 p.m.

Facility Financing Plan Update and Consultation:

Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager and David Davison, Assistant Town Manager/Finance appeared before the Board to discuss the proposed update to the Town's Facility Financing Plan and options for financing the new Senior Center. Ms. Fitzpatrick said the goal tonight is to give a brief summary of the options identified for financing the new senior center and outline the changes in the Facility Financing Summary from the Summary presented in September 2010. Ms. Fitzpatrick reviewed the Facility Financing Summary. She outlined two possible options for financing the new senior center, including a debt exclusion override at approximately \$8 million or no debt exclusion override. Ms. Fitzpatrick discussed the variables for the project including interest rate assumptions, project costs, and fundraising.

Mr. Handel noted the next formal discussion on this matter will be at the July 26, 2011 Board of Selectmen meeting.

Mr. Wasserman commented on projects not yet approved and wanted to know if new projects would have funding. Mr. Wasserman stated he does not believe funding the construction of a senior center is a candidate for an override. He said funding the construction without an override looks doable, but is not an ideal plan.

Mr. Matthews commented the major decision to be made is whether to ask for levy funding or override funding. He prefers to fund the project within the levy, and feels it is important to make a decision at the July 26, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Healy commented on a letter received by Suzanne Hughes, Chair of the Council on Aging. He thanked the seniors in Town and members of the SCEC for

their support, and he is he grateful to the Town Manager and the Finance Director for developing the plan. He said it is important that there not be any decrease to the scope of the project, as recommended by the SCEC. Mr. Healy commented the logical choice is to do the project without an override. He also mentioned several variables including the interest rate, project costs, fundraising, and the S&P rating.

Mr. Wasserman said residents need to understand that all of the previous projects financed by override are making it possible to construct a senior center without an override.

Consent Agenda and Appointments:

Motion by Mr. Bulian that the Board of Selectmen vote to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

1.	Accept donation of 200 Hoodsie Ice Cream cups, and 200 spoons at a value of \$70.00 for the Memorial Day observation held on May 30, 2011 from Roche Brothers, Needham.				
2.	Accept \$ 1,000 donation made to the Needham Revitalization Trust Fund from Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital Needham Campus for the maintenance account-Symbols of Pride for Banners & Flags program.				
3.	Accept the following \$100 donation from Briarwood Healthcare Nursing Center received to the Needham Health Department’s Domestic Violence Action Committee.				
4.	Approve request for One Day Special Wine & Malt Beverage license 7:00 pm to 11:30 pm from Robert Papetti for the Needham 300 Tercentennial Committee to hold the Highlandville Tavern on Friday, July 1, 2011 and Saturday, July 2, 2011 at The Village Club, 83 Morton Street, Needham.				
5.	Approve a request from the Public Health Department for a 20 (b) exemption to allow the following school employees to work as seasonal packers/drivers for The Traveling Meals program: Dawn O’Halloran, KASE Program at Newman School; Nancy Milliken, Food Manager at Eliot School; Catherine Murray, Broadmeadow School Cafeteria; and Gladys White, who occasionally works for the Town Clerk’s Office.				
6.	Accept the following donations made to the Parks & Forestry Division of the Public Works Department: \$1,500 from Needham Little League for specialized park soil for Memorial Park’s 90’ diamond; and \$4,555 from the Needham High School Athletics for contractual services for installation of specialized park soil.				
7.	Approve May 4, 2011 and May 24, 2011 minutes.				
8.	Grant Permission for the following residents to hold a block party:				
	Name	Address	Party Location	Party Date	Party Rain Time

				Date	
Marie Shapiro	9Ardmore Road	End of Taylor and Ardmore	6/11/11	6/12/11	4-8pm
John Garnhum	25 Whiting Way	Whiting Way	6/12/11	6/26/11	2-5pm
Robert Klein	11 Andrea Circle	Andrea Circle	6/12/11		1-4:30pm
Jenny Berk	10 Hollow Ridge Road	Hollow Ridge Road	6/18/11		3:30-8pm
John Meade	46 Deerfield Rd	46 Deerfield	6/4/11		4:00-8pm
Ali Albrecht	300 Hillcrest Rd	300 Hillcrest	6/15/11		12:00pm-3:00pm
Bill Gallagher	48 Hawthorn Ave	Hawthorn Avenue and Sargent Avenue	9/10/11	9/11/11	3:00pm-8pm

Mr. Healy commented on the financial contributions made by Beth Isreal Deaconess Hospital, Roach Bros., and Needham Little League and thanked them for their support.

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 5-0.

8:15 p.m. Board Discussion:

1. Needham Center Zoning

The Board discussed its request that the Planning Board reevaluate the Needham Center Overlay District zoning, mindful of the concerns raised by the citizens' petitioners at the 2011 Annual Town Meeting.

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board approve and sign a letter to the Planning Board seeking re-study of the Needham Center Overlay District zoning, including the original economic assumptions, management of parking and traffic impacts, minimum lot size, and aesthetic issues.

Second: Mr. Wasserman. Unanimously approved 5-0.

2. Board of Selectmen Goal Setting Process

Ms. Fitzpatrick reminded the Board of the framework for the prior round of goal setting, and discussed the process for adoption of goals for the coming year(s). She asked the Board what process it wishes to use this year for setting its goals.

Mr. Wasserman suggested holding a workshop on goals. He is in favor of a shorter list of goals.

Mr. Healy suggests sending a letter to various Boards and Committees soliciting ideas for consideration for discussion by the Board of Selectmen. He feels it is the responsibility of the Selectmen to set the agenda and mission.

3. Town of Wellesley Invitation

Motion by Mr. Matthews that the Board of Selectmen approve and sign the letter of invitation to the Town of Wellesley to participate in the tercentennial celebration.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Unanimously approved 5-0.

8:25 p.m.

Executive Session –Exception 3:

Motion by Mr. Wasserman that the Board of Selectmen vote to enter into Executive Session under Exception 3 – to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. Not to return to open session prior to adjournment.

Second: Mr. Bulian. Mr. Handel polled the Board. Unanimously approved 5-0.

(The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.)