

Windham/Eastern Community Action Network  
Town/Gown  
Minutes  
December 8, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Kim Silcox.

A comment was made that it would be great to have students at W/E Can meetings. It is difficult to get students to attend because of their varied schedules. It is posted in the University Calendar but students are busy.

Kevin Hoxie reported that there was a party in his neighborhood last weekend. The police responded and the party was broken up.

David Hemenway suggested that neighbors go to the troublesome landlord in the neighborhood and complain every time there is a problem. He suggested they write letters to the editor, knock on her door at 8 a.m.; let her know how much of a disruption her unruly tenants are to the neighbors.

Update on ordinances: Mike Paulhus, First Selectman, is reviewing the proposal in house. The Housing commission is being reactivated and will also present to the Planning and Zoning commission.

Dr. Tordenti suggested that Mr. Paulhus send the landlord a letter inviting her to meet with him to address the many complaints against her properties.

Mr. Paulhus discussed the parking enforcement issue. The parking enforcer does a great job, but the problem is that the city can't tow cars parked on private property – the property owner can tow but is responsible for not damaging the vehicle. Mr. Paulhus also informed the group about the VITA Center, a voluntary income tax assistance program run in conjunction with the Access Agency. The program helps residents file their taxes free of charge. \$521,000 has been returned to local residents. 30 students from the Accounting Department at Eastern will be helping with this program. A satellite office is opening at the Housing Authority.

Students have approached Dr. Tordenti about getting 1-200 students together to landscape a park – Mr. Paulhus suggested involving the garden club. Joan Slowik suggested Memorial Park at Main Street and Tingley Street. She also suggested that the Little League needs bats and other equipment. Dr. Tordenti also discussed the Windham Textile Museum and its financial constraints which have resulted in a reduction of hours for its directors. Volunteers are needed to keep the Museum open.

Kim Silcox advised the group of the variety of community service programs that students have participated in including the Covenant Soup Kitchen, Windham Middle School's after school program 4-H Lift, The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp, FoodShare, St. Joseph's Living Center, as well as the teddy bear drive for the Holy Family Home and Shelter. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.