

M A N S F I E L D  
CENTER FOR NURSING & REHABILITATION  
A NOT-FOR-PROFIT FACILITY OF NEW SAMARITAN CORPORATION

April 8, 2013

Matthew Hart  
Town Manager  
Audrey P Beck Building  
4 South Eagleville Road  
Mansfield, Connecticut 06268

Dear Mr. Hart:

I appreciate your acknowledgement of my letter of February 21, 2013 related to the transportation needs of our patients and residents. This is an issue of the greatest importance in support of the well being of our residents. There are many factors working against our ability to effectively and safely provide scheduled transportation for critical medical appointments and diagnostic evaluations.

The facility utilizes four transportation entities that include American/AMR , Metro, Dial-a-Ride and Medex, which is the provider contracted for the State of Connecticut. Their fees for transportation range from \$100 to \$250 for travel to the Mansfield/ Willimantic area. Dial-a-Ride is free but frequently the combined travel and the wait time at the office before and after the appointment can be up 2 hours due to many passengers that need to be picked up and dropped off.

MCNR has scheduled transportation in March and up to April 2<sup>nd</sup> for 50 individuals by wheelchair and 27 ambulatory individuals with travel needs within the Mansfield and Willimantic area. It is our hope is that the Town van could be an additional resource to accommodate some of our transportation needs.

Sincerely,



Administrator  
Kathleen Sutherland

*Submitted by J. Snow*

I have a few unanswered questions I would like to see addressed.

I am told there was a fire in the Storrs Downtown project a little over a month ago. It was in the new construction. Supposedly this is where our fire trucks go every thursday morning for inspections, they were going to one of these inspections when they crashed into each other. What can you tell us about this fire. I do know that when the fire dept showed up they switched over to their high band "secret" frequency.

While I am on the Fire dept has there been any findings on the firetruck rollover that totaled one of the tanker trucks. It has been 4 plus months. Last we were told it was still under investigation.

As you know I and others have questioned the unnecessary useage of the fire dept's apparatus. several years ago when we questioned this , we were told that it was logged when any apparatus left a firehouse,,,, as a matter of fact we requested these logs under the FOI act and reviewed what they had,,,, which was not much. Now the cheif is telling us that they do not log everytime. Which is it and why do they not log these trips.... It really would not be that time consuming,,,, matter of fact it would be quite simple.

A while back one of the Directors of this town was arrested for Driving under the influence in town. It was addressed by the town manager at a council meeting

that he was not in a town vehicle and he would follow up. That was it,,,, it,,,, the whole thing just disappeared.... Puf gone.... Does anyone have any idea how this can happen.

During the past year several town employees have been terminated. There are lots of questions I have about this but I am sure management will just state " its a personell matter and wont discuss it. One question that can be answered is how has it affected the budget. Rough guesstimation would be about 4 to 500 thousand dollars in savings as each employee costs 100 thousand or more.

a couple of years ago after the skidsteer was stolen, we were told that all public works eq. is returned to the garage daily. This was addressed because I had asked why the largest peice of eq. the grader, was not left on woodland rd when it was being used there for eight straight days. Eq is not being returned to the garage....and what ever happened with the stolen skidsteer.

Date: Thu, 4 Apr 2013

Sir,

You obviously don't reside in Mansfield, which is used as a pawn by the University every chance it gets. Mansfield taxpayers have taken it on the chin and in the wallets for this project, conceived over cocktails by Phillip Austin and his cronies, many years ago.

As a resident and taxpayer of Mansfield, I have opposed this project for a long time. The burden put upon us in cost overruns, additional police, additional firemen, additional equipment, not to mention additional traffic [for a pedestrian friendly development] is uncalled for. The additional cost to taxpayers is, in many cases, too much to bear. This project is nothing more than additional student housing [needed by the university] and a glorified food court concealed in "Blazing Saddles" architecture. How many eateries can you cram into a small space? The answer is Storrs Center. This is another example of UNSMART GROWTH. How many of these businesses will be in existence years from now? Like most business in Mansfield they will have to make their money during school hours.

Perhaps next time you glorify another UConn project you might talk to some of the residents who will have to live with this burden for many years to come.

UConn ~ UConn ~ U Conned us all !

Ric Hossack  
Storrs

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~~Blazing Saddles~~  
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