

Ad Hoc Committee on Naming of Streets and Building
April 18, 2012
DRAFT

1. Call to Order

Councilor Bill Ryan called the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Naming of Streets and Buildings to order at 5:05 p.m. in Room C of the Audrey P. Beck Building. Present: Mr. Paulhus, Mr. Ryan and Mr. Schaefer
Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded to appoint Mr. Ryan as the Chair of the Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Review of Charge and Schedule from the Town Council

Members reviewed the charge given to the Committee at the March 26, 2012 meeting of the Town Council. Mr. Schaefer expressed interest in expanding the charge to include more areas of Town and not be limited to just the Storrs Center Project. This question will be asked of the Council.

3. Opportunity for the Public to Speak

Honey Birkenruth, Ball Hill Road, suggested Dr. Ralph Gilman be considered as a candidate. Dr Gilman was the first general practitioner in Mansfield, the first full time physician at the University of Connecticut and a founder of the Windham Community Memorial Hospital. Ms. Birkenruth commented Dr. Gilman was a beloved physician to the community whose office, for many years, was on Dog Lane.

Steve Bacon, Wormwood Hill Road, spoke in favor of all three candidates who were recommended by the Mansfield Downtown Partnership's Planning and Design Committee and Board of Directors, especially Fred Cazel. Mr. Cazel was a member of the Town Council, serving as Mayor, a founding member of the Mansfield Historical Society and contributed land to both the Historical Society and Joshua's Trust. Mr. Bacon commented Mr. Cazel had the ability to calm a room full of different opinions and was a true gentleman who was devoted to the community. Mr. Bacon also spoke in support of the recommendation of Gary Zimmer. Mr. Zimmer was a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission during the development of the special design district for the Storrs Center Project and demonstrated a keen interest in alternative means of transportation. Mr. Bacon did not know Mr. Nash.

4. Review and Discussion of Legality of Process

The Town Clerk reported previously named buildings in the Town were approved by resolutions of the Board of Education and the Town Council. All street names will need to be reviewed by the Fire Marshal to confirm the proposed names are not too similar to existing ones.

5. Discussion of Committee Process and Procedure

Committee members agreed to establish basic criteria for nominations. The person under consideration must be deceased and have a record of public service in the community, either as an elected official or as a volunteer. Members will review the Mansfield

Chronology for additional candidates. At the April 23, 2012 Town Council meeting, Mr. Ryan will ask the Council for guidance regarding expanding the two naming opportunities suggested in the March 26, 2012 memo to the Council.

Mansfield Downtown Partnership Director Cynthia van Zelm was asked about deadlines for recommendations. The bid for the intermodal center will be sent out on July 1, 2012 and the utility companies require roads are named prior to activating the power.

6. Determination of Methods for Seeking Public Input

Chairman Ryan will contact The Chronicle reporter and will prepare a press release which the Town Clerk will disseminate. The press release will also be posted on the Town's website, Channel 13 and will be sent to Q-Notify subscribers.

7. Review of Candidates Received to Date

The Committee reviewed the submitted candidates and asked that party affiliation and the name of the submitter be added to the list. Mr. Schaefer asked that Joann Newmyer be entered into consideration.

8. Items for Future Agendas

Future agendas will be determined in part by the response of the Council to the Committee's request to expand the charge.

9. Set Next Meeting Date and Time

The Committee agreed to set a tentative meeting date of May 2, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

10. Opportunity for the Public to Speak

No additional comments were offered.

11. Adjournment

Mr. Paulhus moved and Mr. Schaefer seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Stanton
Town Clerk