

**Narragansett - URI Coalition
Steering Committee Minutes
9/06/05
4:00-5:00 PM
Narragansett Town Hall**

Members present: Tom Dougan, Eileen DesForges, Nancy Devaney, Krista Garrett, Jim Hurton, Maury Loontjens, Toni O'Neill, Joseph Robenhymmer, Rob Rossi, Chief Smith, Carol Stuart, George Tracy, Pat Zito, Coalition Coordinator, Paula Santos
Absent: David DeRouin, Colleen Lally,

The meeting began at 4:00pm.

1. Review/Approval of past meeting minutes

Minutes for the 8-02-05 Steering Committee were approved with a rewriting of the second goal which now reads: **To reduce the number of events that result in community complaints to the Narragansett Police Department regarding URI students**

Action:

- They will be posted on the web site.

2. Introductions

- Chief Smith introduced Major Stephen Baker from the URI Campus Security Police. The Coalition has brought together the partnership between the town and the university and Major Baker expressed his appreciation for the invitation. Uniformed campus police on occasion will join Narragansett police on visits to local bars on the weekend to show cooperation in working together to enhance student and community safety.
- Town Manger Maury Loontjens introduced Ron Lepre, newly hired Community Housing Officer who will be working for the building inspector but in close partnership with the police department. As a non-uniformed town official, he hopes to increase the quality of life within the Narragansett neighborhoods through code enforcement and developing positive relationships with the students and residents. He was welcomed by all.

3. Goal Setting

Each sub-committee chair reviewed their goals and upcoming plans for 05-06.

- Tom asked if there is anything that the Coalition might do to help with the implementation of goal 2: approval for the application of the student code of conduct to off-campus conduct. All agreed to see what came of the decision at the next faculty senate meeting.
- **Communications** – Jim stated he met with 2 subcommittee chairs to establish lines of communication. He would like all subcommittee minutes to be posted to the web and an update of statistics showing the positive change in the community since the establishment of the Coalition. He plans on publishing a comprehensive article in the local newspapers after the Coalition's Open House on October 18.
- **Realtor's/Neighborhood Associations** - Eileen reported that new goals were drafted for the upcoming year. On the town's web site there is a consolidated list of key housing ordinances that are user friendly.
- **Programming** – Leslie and Pat reported that the subcommittee met and drafted goals. Leslie stated that the date for the commuter housing fair would be in mid-October and another meeting of the ad-hoc planning committee would meet soon to finalize the program. Paula asked whether or not the neighborhood associations would participate in a "meet your neighbor" night during an alcohol free Monday night at Okie's. Okie's wants to have Monday nights as a regular alcohol free night. All said yes but would like further information. Leslie handed out "Living In Narragansett" guides which got great reviews.
- **Common Ground** – Nancy reported that the subcommittee met throughout the summer and produced a packet for new alcohol license holders. In addition, they are working on a cooperative agreement with package store and tavern owners.

4. September Coalition Meeting

Paula reported that due to a scheduling conflict the Town Hall would not be available for the September meeting.

Action:

- Maury will find adequate space. Paula will inform all and post change on the web site.

5. Moderator

Action:

- Steering Committee gave Tom full latitude in finding a student who is connected to the Coalition.

6. New Business

Carol mentioned that September 11 is "National Neighborhood Day." It is too late to do anything about it this year but the Coalition will certainly address it next year.

7. Old Business

Carol asked what happened with the "Green-up" effort planned for the first weekend in October. Paula reported that she contacted some neighborhood association presidents and did not get an overwhelming response. It was decided to postpone the event until next year when we can plan the event better with our URI 101 community projects office, solicit project ideas from the associations and give the associations more time to plan a neighborhood-sponsored get together.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm. The next Steering Committee meeting will be held October 4, 2005 at 4:00pm in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Santos
Coalition Coordinator