

**ENFIELD PRISON/TOWN LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
JUNE 8 2016 – 6:00 PM  
THOMPSONVILLE ROOM – ENFIELD TOWN HALL**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Enfield Prison/Town Liaison Committee was held in the Thompsonville room at the Enfield Town Hall, 820 Enfield Street on June 8, 2016. Chairman Nowak called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Present from the Town of Enfield were Chairman Tophie Nowak, Nelson Rodrigues, Timothy Slade, Carmella Brennan, Kenneth Edgar and Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall.

Present from the Department of Correction were District Administrator Peter Murphy, Deputy Warden Paul Ouellette, Nelson Ramos Deputy Warden, Warden John Tarascio, Ann Cournoyer.

Present from the Enfield Police Department was Captain Hall.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*September 9, 2016* – Kenneth Edgar motioned to approve the minutes of September 9, 2016, Nelson Rodrigues seconded the motion. All were in favor.

*March 9, 2016* – Carmella Brennan motioned to approve the minutes of March 9, 2016, Kenneth Edgar seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None

**OLD BUSINESS**

<i>Report of Population Counts</i>		<u>Current Qtr.</u>	<u>(03/2016)</u>
Warden Tarascio	Willard Cybulski Correctional Institute	1144	1147
Warden Cournoyer	Enfield Correctional Institute	720	722
Warden Weir	Carl Robinson Correctional Institute	1472	1469

**Willard Cybulski Update**

Warden Tarascio introduced Deputy Warden Nelson Ramos.

He stated with the state budget cuts, the facility lost a total of 10 employees including teachers and food service workers.

The facility also lost the community detail and two other posts. They will not be able to provide any community support this year. He is in contact with Mayor

Kaupin to figure out the cost of staff and inmates for the Enfield 4<sup>th</sup> of July festival. The only way he can provide the community service is if the Town of Enfield has the ability to reimburse them.

They still have the puppy program and recently had a graduation. One of the caseload counselors runs the program along with a trainer from Granby to train the inmates.

Ms. Brennan questioned if they will be able to provide services to Crescent Lake.

Warden Tarascio stated they will not be unless they are a non-profit organization and they can reimburse for the hourly cost of the guards.

Their garden is continuing to move forward. They opened up a 3<sup>rd</sup> unit for DUI offenders with 118 offenders.

Mr. Edgar questioned what the new unit entails.

Warden Tarascio stated they work on rehabilitation and counseling. The reintegration and veterans programs are still up and running. The budget cuts have impacted those programs.

#### Carl Robinson Update

Deputy Warden Ouellette stated the State layoffs lost a net of 13 positions, lost 3 posts (community detail officer) which will have an impact on some of the community services. The largest service is the garden to the Enfield food shelf which will not be affected. The central laundry construction has been completed. All of their laundry will go to one location. All of the budget money was earmarked long ago and they expect to be using it by the end of July. Instead of having individual laundry in each unit, there is one central location within the facility.

Chairman Nowak questioned if the loss of positions will affect the schedule. Deputy Warden Ouellette stated they don't expect to notice a difference in their operation.

There is currently a suicide under investigation that happened at the facility. This is the first one the facility has had in over 20 years.

Deputy Warden Ouellette discussed 2012 legislation which passed that each state where juveniles were sentenced to a life sentence now have an opportunity to go before the parole board. It will affect 200 inmates state wide. It does not mean that dangerous criminals will be let out if they are still a danger to the community, but they do have the right to have a hearing.

Chairman Nowak questioned how many are eligible at Carl Robinson.

District Administrator Murphy stated that the program is brand new, so they still need to figure out who is eligible.

*Enfield Correctional Update*

Warden Cournoyer stated there were no significant incidents. Continue to have a garden to donate to local foodbanks, shelters and senior centers. The facility eliminated 16 individuals including food staff and clerical.

Mr. Rodrigues questioned if the food donations are to non-profit organizations.

District Administrator Murphy stated they are all non-profit organizations.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairman Nowak brought up discussion regarding the scope of the Committee on what they can and can't do. They are not considered a committee that would need by-laws and an informational committee. The only voting requirements are opening/closing a meeting and approval of the minutes. They are not part of the televised meetings for security purposes.

Kenneth Edgar questioned if there is a plan for the Northern Facility.

DA Murphy stated he will have more information at the next meeting.

Chairman Nowak wanted to know about the decision on the 18-25 year olds.

DA Murphy noted research shows that the brain isn't developed and make rash decisions. Looking to develop programs addressed to specific needs for 18-25, no specific plans, but in development and believes it is definitely worth looking at to address this age group.

Mr. Edgar questioned what happened to the credit union.

Deputy Warden Ouellette stated an Independent contractor was lifting concrete poles and left with the boom up and tore the telephone pole down.

Ms. Brennan stated she was hoping to get some help at Crescent lake field and surrounding area.

DA Murphy stated the DOC was cut \$68M and they need to focus on their core initiatives and focus on the safety of the facility.

Tarascio warned the Town that supervising the inmates to do work outside of the prison, even with proper training is still a risk.

Mr. Edgar requested to remove/replace the blue tarp off of the shaker house because it is shredded and not serving any purpose.

Chairman Nowak questioned if the wardens have any input on the layoffs.

District Administrator Murphy stated the wardens do have input because they can best gauge how it will affect the facility.

Chairman Nowak questioned if there will be any more layoffs.

D.A. Murphy stated as far as he knows there will not be any more layoffs.

Chairman Nowak questioned how the death row ruling will affect the death row inmates.

D.A. Murphy stated it was just put into effect two weeks ago and will have more information at the next meeting.

Captain Hall thanked the DOC for their cooperation and professionalism. They always helped when asked the "DOC is fantastic and the Enfield Police department appreciates everything they do".

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Edgar motioned to adjourn at 6:47 p.m.; Ms. Brennan seconded the motion and all in favor.

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday September 13, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the Enfield Room, Enfield Town Hall.