

**ENFIELD PRISON/TOWN LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, June 10, 2020 – 6:00 PM**

**VIRTUAL MEETING - ZOOM**

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING**

**Call to Order** Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

**Roll Call of Members**

Present for the meeting were Chairman Nelson Rodriguez, Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall, Kenneth Edgar, Nanci Harvey, Timothy Slade and Steven Niemitz.

**Present from the Department of Corrections:**

Eulalia Garcia, Warden, Willard Cybulski  
Zelynette Caron, Warden Carl Robinson

**Present from the Enfield Police Department**

Chief Alaric Fox  
Deputy Chief Jeffrey Golden

**Present from the Town of Enfield**

Donna Szewczak, Deputy Mayor/Council Liaison  
William Kiner Town Council Liaison

Also Present: Alexis Nai, Recording Secretary

1. Review of Minutes

- a. March 11, 2020 – Mr. Niemitz motioned to approve the minutes of March 11, 2020, Mr. Slade seconded the motion. The minutes were passed (5-0-1).

**New Business**

Deputy Mayor Szewczak spoke about inviting the Somers prison committee to the Enfield meetings. With everything that happened with COVID-19 we really need reach out and have an open dialogue with Somers. It's one compound up there and we are a very close community with them.

Chairman Rodriguez noted he spoke with Councilman Kiner about combining the meetings so we don't miss anything. Somers committee members reached out and noted they are willing to do so.

Ms. Pfeifer-Hall motioned to combine Somers and Enfield meetings. Mr. Niemitz seconded the motion. All were in favor (6-0-0)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

<i>a. Report of Population Counts</i>		<u>Current Qtr.</u>	<u>(03/2020)</u>
Warden Garcia	Willard Cybulski Correctional Institute	510	1079
Closed	Enfield Correctional Institute	0	0
Warden Caron	Carl Robinson Correctional Institute	833	1308

### *b. Review of Significant Incidents or Policy Changes at Prisons*

#### Carl Robinson

Warden Caron stated there were 474 tests, which 93 positive cases as of today. They are waiting for 311 more to come in. There have been 57 staff confirmed, 54 have returned back to work. They quarantine staff for two weeks. They will be under quarantine status until the 23<sup>rd</sup>. They are on phase two which is minimal movement. The programs are being held in the dorms themselves. They clean the housing units thoroughly. Medical is delivering medication to keep housing sections separate. Most of the inmates who tested positive are a-symptomatic. None of the inmates are complaining of symptoms. Carl Robinson is open dorm so they can't contain in a cell. They are provided with N-95 masks weekly. They apologize for the conditions of the grounds as they can't have the inmates out during quarantine.

#### Willard Cybulski

Warden Garcia stated Incidents have been low. Some inmates did a silent protest based on what they saw on TV. They removed the instigators and since they removed them, it has been quiet. They removed 118 inmates. They went to McDougal Walker, Northern and Cheshire.

Chairman Rodriguez stated he heard Carl Robinson did a good job emptying out the instigators to prevent any incidents.

Deputy Mayor Szewczak noted there was a lot of concern during the height of COVID that the prisoners would try to overtake the prison, but glad that it was handled appropriately.

Chairman Rodriguez confirmed that visitation has stopped during the pandemic.

Chief Fox stated he has no concerns. There were a couple of parade protests over inmate concerns with COVID-19. Between troop C, EPD & DOC they were handled well and there were no incidents.

Ms. Harvey stated fishing at the lake has a catch and release policy and they've seen people putting the fish in buckets and leaving with them. She stated she could get a sign to put up.

Warden Caron stated she can put up a sign. Often with newer officers they don't know the rules. She will get in contact with Ms. Harvey and figure out how to get the sign.

Mr. Slade questioned if the older inmates being quarantine because they are more at risk.

Warden Caron stated they don't have many inmates over 60. They have one dorm with 45+ that is attached to the medical building. More of the older inmates are at Osborn.

Warden Garcia stated there are very few 60+ at Willard Cybulski and they frequently follow up with the older inmates.

Mr. Niemitz questioned if there were any hospitalizations or inmate deaths due to COVID-19.

Warden Caron stated they had one inmate hospitalized no deaths

Warden Garcia stated there were nine hospitalizations (Johnson Memorial, UConn, St. Francis), one inmate passed away.

Warden Caron stated there is a new District Administrator in place who is a former warden at Osborn. Peter Murphy Retired. She will request the new D.A. attend the next meeting.

Mr. Niemitz noted the DOC has done a really great job handling everything with COVID-19

Chairman Rodriguez thanked everyone for keeping community safety as a main priority.

### **Everbridge Alert System**

Mr. Slade stated on April 18<sup>th</sup> no alerts were sent out for the protest at the prison or the moody road closure. He noted that with people protesting and police presence there was a cause a concern.

Chief Fox stated it did not meet the parameters for the town to send out a notification.

Mr. Slade stated he will continue to comment until he sees a change or better understands the parameters.

Ms. Pfeifer Hall noted that Mr. Slade mentioned Betty road and Moody road closures in regards to the alerts and questioned how that was applicable.

Mr. Slade stated the point is that the system is unreliable that there was a major road closure. There continues to be an inconsistency in which the Everbridge system is activated.

**Open Forum and Public Participation:** None

**Date of Next Meeting:** September 9, 2020

**Adjournment:** Mr. Slade motioned to adjourn at 6:40 PM. Ms. Pfeifer-Hall seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned (6-0-0).