

**MINUTES OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE TOWN
BOARD MEETING HELD ON JUNE 8, 2011 AT 7:00 PM AT TOWN
HALL, ONE OVEROCKER ROAD, POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK**

PRESENT: Supervisor Myers
Councilman Conte
Councilman Cifone
Councilman Tancredi
Town Attorney Nelson
Town Clerk Miller

ABSENT: Councilman Lecker
Councilman Eagleton
Councilman Krakower

- **NOTE: Attachments pertaining to a particular Town Board Meeting will be found after the final minutes of that meeting, which are kept in the official minute books, held in Town Clerk's Office.**

Public comments made during a Board Meeting may be heard on the audiotape of that particular meeting, which is kept in the Town Clerk's Office.

{ } designates corrections

7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

SALUTE THE FLAG

06:08-COW 1 NOTIFICATION

Occupations, Inc. (Group Home)
Alia Court

Supervisor Myers: The residents within the 200 ft. border of Alia Court have been notified and I assume some of the audience are residents of that area. We do have with us Mr. James DeStefano, who is representing us and he would like to give a short presentation along with some of his staff. Then we will entertain any questions anyone might have from the neighborhood. This is not something that the Town Board gets to say "yea" or "nay" on. Mental Health Law says that they need to inform the public of their desire to open a group home in a particular location. The Town at that point, I believe have three choices. We can say, "Ok", We can suggest a different sight somewhere else in the Town, which the organization then has to say that it meets their standards, or we can offer proof that there are already numerous other group homes in that immediate area and that it would then be detrimental. Those are the only parameters to deny this.

James DeStefano, President & Chief Executive Officer; Janine Cisco, Taconic DDSO, which is a regional office of OPWDD, which stands for Office of People with Developmental Disabilities and is in Site Development; and Joanne Gosic, works for occupations and is the Development Director for the Agency and Amy Anderson Winchell, Executive Vice Present and Chief Operating Officer and Executive Director of Family Empowerment Counsel for our System of Care.

Janine Cisco spoke a bit on the process and James DeStefano spoke on the occupations. Joanne will talk about the residents and then they are here to answer any questions from the public. This organization of New York State oversees the development of this project and supplies the funding for this project. She is personally involved in site-search and Joanne and she have looked at many homes in two counties and they have settled on this lovely home on Alia Court. Amy spoke regarding services offered in the County. Joanne spoke and stated that there will be 6 women moving into the home on Alia Court. They are all in the 50 to 60 years old age range. One has a visual impairment, two have ambulation issues with the need for a ramp, and the women moving into the house have been living together in an institution for quite some time at the Developmental Center. So, this is going to be new to them. There will be three direct support staff on at the home with one supervisory staff. Two overnight staff who will be awake at all times. She asked if there are any questions, which she answered. Complaints were dealing with noise, traffic, affect on home values, selling a home, loss of privacy, danger to children, etc.

But, the concern of these residents is really not necessary as it is proven that these homes are not a detriment to the neighborhood at all because if there is a complaint, the organization takes care of it immediately. In general there are very few complaints. Real Estate agents report that there is no negative affect in the value of the neighborhood.

The Town Board also assured residents that upon any complaints, there would be Town laws to protect the residents and Councilmen would pursue the correcting of any wrong doing.

COMPLETE PACKAGE IDENTIFYING THE GROUP HOME PROCESS
IS ATTACHED TO FINAL BOOK COPY

06-08-COW 2 PRESENTATION

Grinnell Library

Jessica Gonzalez, Executive Director of Grinnell Library: I am here today to appeal to the Board and Supervisor Myers regarding the 2012 Library Financial Support. In the past two years, the Town has provided Grinnell Library with \$50,000 toward the budget. (A slide show was done to show how they use the funding of the Town to serve Town of Poughkeepsie residents at the Library. (Slide review is attached to final book copy) She brought out how badly they need the Town's support for the Library and that they do serve so many of the Town's residents. All of their programs are free. They have crafts, bowling, game night, homework help center for children. The Town of Wappingers contributes the biggest portion of funding, \$529,000.00. The Village of Wappingers also contributes a small portion, \$30,000 and the Town of Poughkeepsie has contributed \$50,000. Originally the Town of Poughkeepsie contributed \$100,000.00, but it has been cut over the years. Our concern is to at least maintain that \$50,000.00. Our overall estimated budget is \$622,000.00. But, we are not guaranteed all of that funding because

around \$30,000 of it is estimated fund rising. “ Please don’t disregard us when you are making your decisions for the budget for 2012.” It does make a big difference.

Motion made to suspend the rules for public speaking: Supervisor Myers/T. Tancredi

CARRIED: 4-0

Doreen Tignanelli: Spoke regarding the status of the audio system. If Councilman Lecker is not back soon, she asked that it be delegated to someone else to take over in his place.

Motion made to resume the rules: Supervisor Myers/T. Tancredi

CARRIED: 4-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE	Councilman Krakower – Councilman Absent
FIRE ADVISORY	Councilman Conte: No Report
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS	Councilman Eagleton – Councilman Absent
LAND USE & PLANNING	Councilman Krakower – Councilman Absent
PERSONNEL	Councilman Cifone: No Report
RECREATION	Councilman Tancredi: Councilman Cifone Spoke: Next week I will be sharing with you guys, some of you know where Fairview Park is located. We have a group of volunteers that would like to build a pavilion on the blacktop for a public amphitheater and in memory of Cliff Killmire who was a resident of Fairview and so I will bring in the plans next week for approval. Supervisor Myers: I believe that for Peach Hill there was \$500.00 left over in the outstanding grants that they just told us about, so we will have an extra \$500.00 to use for Peach Hill. That closes out the grant completely. That was a nice surprise.

SENIOR CITIZENS
TECHNOLOGY & EQUIPMENT

Councilman Tancredi: No Report
Councilman Lecker: No Report

WATER, SEWER, HIGHWAY

Councilman Eagleton: No Report

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED, the Town Board of the Town of Poughkeepsie does hereby adjourn to Executive Session to consider the following matters, to wit:

1. Litigation – to discuss litigation strategy in the case known as Ginsberg.

SO MOVED: Supervisor Myers/M. Cifone

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Councilmen Conte, Cifone, Tancredi and Supervisor Myers
Nays: None

CARRIED: 4-0

BOARD INVITED DONALD BEER TO JOIN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

BACK FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:05 PM

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN

Motion to close meeting: Supervisor Myers/M. Cifone

CARRIED: 4-0

MEETING CLOSED AT 9:06 PM

SJM:lkm