

**Town of Redding**  
**Redding Safety Committee Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, 12/7/2023**  
**4:00PM via Zoom**

*Filed subject to approval.*

**Present:**

- Zachary Smith, Co-Chair, Finance Department
- Jamie Gracy, Co-Chair, Highway Department
- Julia Pemberton, First Selectwoman, Selectman's Department
- Shaun Donnelly, Facilities Director, Facilities Department
- Rob Blick, Park & Recreation Director, Park & Recreation Department
- Deelia Wadsworth, Park & Recreation Department
- Chris Wegrzyn, Health Director, Health Department
- Dava Nucullaj, Senior Center
- Eugene Burke, Veolia Water (WPCC)

**1. Call Meeting to Order.**

Co-Chair Smith called the meeting to order at **4:01PM**.

**2. Approval of the Motions & Minutes from the Thursday, 9/7/2023 Meeting.**

**Motion:**

**Mr. Donnelly made a motion to approve the motions & minutes from the Thursday, 9/7/2023 regular meeting. Mr. Burke seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.**

**3. Old Business.**

- **Georgetown Wire Mill**

Co-Chair Smith asked First Selectwoman Pemberton about the status of the Georgetown Wire Mill safety situation. First Selectwoman Pemberton provided a brief update on the safety plan for the site.

Mr. Burke asked First Selectwoman Pemberton about the gate that protects Bruce Bennett Nissan's rental space. First Selectwoman Pemberton stated that an automatic gate presents its own challenges. Discussion followed.

- **Parade Path Tree Removal**

Co-Chair Smith asked Co-Chair Gracy about Parade Path tree removal. Co-Chair Gracy stated that some limbs were removed after the last Redding Safety Committee meeting.

- **AED's**

Co-Chair Smith asked First Selectwoman Pemberton about the Stryker Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) purchase. First Selectwoman Pemberton stated that the vendor needs to be contacted concerning the order status.

Mr. Donnelly stated that he ordered AED batteries for the Town Hall and Community Center. The delivery of batteries was delayed for a month, and the pads were out of stock on every vendor he reached out to.

First Selectwoman Pemberton discussed the locations of the new AEDs and the necessary work to install them.

Co-Chair Gracy stated that the Highway Department needs an AED.

- **Traffic Enforcement**

No members of the Police Department were present to comment on this.

First Selectwoman Pemberton stated that a speed camera was installed on Gallows Hill Road as well as two stop signs on Long Ridge Road.

Mr. Burke discussed a particular traffic incident. Discussion followed concerning police traffic enforcement and the current staffing limitations.

- **Air-Conditioning**

Mr. Donnelly stated that the Community Center air-conditioning issue was addressed. Discussion followed concerning the ongoing HVAC study at the Town Hall and Community Center buildings.

#### **4. New Business.**

- **Review of First Reports of Injury (FRIs) since the Thursday, 9/7/2023 Regular Meeting for the Schools and the Town.**

Co-Chair Smith discussed four incidents that occurred for the Town of Redding:

- A volunteer firefighter was removing a suction hose from a fire hydrant and had the hose recoil and hit them in the jaw/chin. The firefighter had a brief loss of consciousness and trauma to their jaw. They went to Danbury Hospital and received a CT scan and an X-Ray. The results were negative, and the firefighter followed up with a visit to the dentist due to trauma to their teeth.
- A police officer was assisting on an EMS call with CPR and lifting a patient. They strained their lower back and went to the chiropractor. There was no lost time.

- An animal control officer was trying to catch a stray dog. They were bitten on their right hand. There was no lost time.
- A facilities employee sustained lower back pain from moving file cabinets up a flight of stairs. There was a loss of five days.

Discussion followed concerning proper lifting techniques and lifting support tools, the dangers of wild animals, and fire hydrant procedures.

Co-Chair Smith discussed five incidents that occurred at the Schools:

- A teacher complained of swollen/irritated eyes and a cough. They believed mold was in their classroom. The classroom was air tested and cleaned by an outside agency. There was no evidence of mold. The weather at the time was unusually hot and humid. There was no lost time.
- A teacher reported a sore throat, congestion, cough, sneezing, chest tightness, & itchy eyes. They believed it to be an allergic reaction to something in their classroom. The room was air tested and cleaned by an outside agency. There was no evidence of mold. This was a period of unusually hot, humid weather. This teacher has a history of allergies. The Board of Education will continue to monitor the situation. The teacher had called out sick a few days before reporting this as a Workers Comp claim at the urging of their union.
- An employee struck their head on playground equipment. They have a recent history of brain surgery. They did not lose consciousness. They complained of a headache. They lost a week at work.
- A student kicked a teacher in both shins resulting in bruising. There was no loss of work.
- A teacher tripped and fell on a sidewalk and injured their right knee. They were in a racoon costume (school mascot). They lost three days.

Discussion followed concerning indoor air quality, mascot guides, and tripping hazards.

## **5. Adjournment.**

### **Motion:**

**Mr. Blick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. First Selectwoman Pemberton seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at **4:27PM**.

*Submitted by,*

*Zachary Smith*