

Nancy Kramer

From: Stuart Richards <srichards@globalrescue.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 2:36 PM
To: Nancy Kramer
Cc: Scott McGee; Jeff Goodrich
Subject: Planning Commission Agendas and Minutes

Nancy,

I would appreciate your letting me know when the email below will be sent to the Selectboard.

Many thanks,

Stuart

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Dear Selectboard Members,

I have been troubled by the apparent double standard that exists in Norwich when it comes to informing the public regarding public meetings, the agendas for those meetings and minutes for public meetings. It seems that those minutes and agendas that are handled by Nancy Kramer, the Town Manager Assistant, are sent out to the public on a list maintained by Nancy AND **they are posted on the Norwich Listserv** as well as being posted on the Norwich Town internet site. Anyone who is on the Norwich Listserv is notified without having to do anything to receive agendas and meetings of the Selectboard, the Energy Committee, The Milt Frye Conservation Area and the Conservation Commission, among others.

There is no similar notification coming from the Planning Commission and Development Review Board although they do appear on the Norwich internet site. These agendas and minutes are handled by Phil Dechert. I request that Mr. Dechert be required to treat agendas and minutes of the publicly appointed entities that he is involved with in the same way that agendas and minutes are treated by Ms. Kramer. There is no reason for the current double standard that I can see when the goal of course is to provide the public with as much timely information and notice as possible. Mr. Dechert in the past has been unwilling to do this.

Current Planning Commission activities are particularly important in as much as there are ongoing discussions which the public should be fully involved in.

One topic that needs maximum public scrutiny involves proposals for creating as many as 168 residential units and commercial development on Route 5 opposite Fogg's hardware store to be situated on prime agricultural soil. The goal seems to be to change Norwich's zoning to promote high density housing and municipal sewage

and “sustainability.” The infrastructure, taxpayer costs and other costs as well as potential changes to the historic character of Norwich have yet to be fully explored.

I hope that all public meetings and agendas will soon be announced on the Listserv.

Stuart Richards