

CHESHIRE PRISON ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

**CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
84 SOUTH MAIN STREET**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2011

Committee Members Present: Representing the Town of Cheshire: Ronald T. Urquhart, William Hellyar, Sharon Houck, and Patricia Alexander. From the correctional institutions: Jon Brighthaupt, Glenn Noffsinger, and Tracy Butler. Representing the Cheshire Police Dept.: Tim Rodgers.

Guests Present: None

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Chairperson Ronald T. Urquhart. The assembled body saluted the flag.

Acceptance of minutes: MOTION by Sharon Houck; seconded by Patricia Alexander. To accept the minutes of the May 11, 2011 meeting as presented. VOTE: The motion passed unanimously.

Update on the Cheshire Facilities: John Brighthaupt, Warden of the Cheshire Correctional Institution and Cheshire Annex, reported a census of 1508 inmates and no major incidents at the CCI. Currently there is no overflow and the galleys are unoccupied. He is not aware of plans to currently open the galleys, but this is dependent on the budget situation (state unions concessions) and any changes to the prison population over the next few months (impacted by plans from the Office of Adult Probation). Currently Bergin Correction Institute has been closed and Enfield is slotted to close. The timeframe of the closing is dependent upon the outcome of the union concessions vote.

John Alves (Warden of the Manson Youth Institution) was unable to attend; Warden Brighthaupt reported on his behalf. Warden Brighthaupt reported a census of 603 inmates. There have been no significant incidents, other than an occasional ambulance transport.

Tracy Butler, Director of the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development, reported there are no new pre-service training classes scheduled. Regular firearms training for current staff is on-going during first shift. There are no second shift programs currently in progress. Other agencies are using the Maloney Center to process state employees who have been laid off.

Glen Noffsinger, Plant Facility Manager, reported there are small projects in progress, including work on the sewer lines. An upcoming project at the Mason Youth Institution will redo all the heating and cooling systems. The project is designated but needs to go out to bid.

Mr. Noffsinger also distributed copies of the recent tests of the prison notification phone tree.

Moving of Prisoners to Cheshire/Communication from Local, State and Prison Administration:

Chairperson Urquhart received a telephone call from a Waterbury Republican-American reporter about closing of prisons and prisoners being moved to Cheshire. This committee needs to be notified when information about the prisons is being released to the media and/or public. The communication with this committee needs to occur between the Department of Corrections, Cheshire Police Department and the Town of Cheshire.

Update on Fire Training School: Tim Rodgers of the Cheshire Police Department reported there is no new information on the proposed Fire Training School. Chairperson Urquhart received a telephone call from a Cheshire resident who is opposed to the proposed location of the new Fire Training School.

Prison Alert System: Chairperson Urquhart will talk to Cheshire Police Chief Neil Dryfe about finalizing the phone tree sign-up process for the prison alert system, so the community can be notified of how to join the alert system.

Other: In response to a question from Mr. Hellyar, Ms. Butler explained the training at the indoor and outdoor gun ranges. Training at the gun ranges is a two day process; 800 DOC staff need to be recertified on the gun ranges.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm by Chairperson Ronald T. Urquhart.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kathy Kirby
Recording Clerk