EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN PUBLIC HEARING OF MAY 17, 2012

MINUTES

PRESENT: Paul M. Formica, Holly Cheeseman, Rob Wilson.

EXCUSED: Rose Ann Hardy, Kevin Seery.

Lesley Ablaci
TOWN CLERK

Mr. Formica called the Public Hearing regarding two proposed leases for portions of Town Property by Care and Share and the Children's Museum respectively to order at 7:03 p.m. and led the Pledge.

Attorney O'Connell stated that a new state statute had been enacted recently which required a public hearing be held on any sale or lease of municipal property. He added that he had worked closely with both proposed tenants on the lease terms. He said that Care and Share wanted to lease part of the old garage for a term of 5 years with an option for an additional 5 years with one year notification by either party for cancelling the lease. He said that the town makes no representation of any improvements and the lease is "as is, where is". He added that there is designated parking and that Care and Share plans to make renovations all at their cost. He said that the utilities attributable to the leased portion will be prorated and they will be their responsibility. He added that the insurance requirements are set forth in the lease.

Attorney O'Connell said that the Children's Museum wanted to lease the upper part of the garage area of the Park and Recreation facility for one year, with either party terminating the lease with 4 weeks advance notice. He said that they have fully inspected the premises and the Town is not responsible for any repairs and that they will accept the premises "as is, where is, in its present condition".

Mr. Nickerson entered the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Attorney O'Connell said that there is parking in front of the old carpentry shop and that all utilities necessary will be borne by the Children's Museum.

Mr. Formica said that Care and Share has had a nomadic lifestyle – constantly moving with no permanent home. He said that they had reviewed a formula for heating oil for their section and had come up with \$150 per month and noted that the Children's Museum would also be responsible for electricity. He said that it was his hope that once the lease was finalized and made public, people would come forward to help out with the building.

Angie McClean of 180 Chesterfield Road, East Lyme and President of Care and Share read a letter into the record (identified as Attachment A.). She asked for the Board's support.

Norm Peck of 21 Romagna Road asked the Board to support both of the leases and added that he thought the Town should pick up the cost for utilities for both Care and Share and the Children's Museum. He also suggested that the Children's Museum utilize space in the old garage and to get rid of the salt shed and the parks and recreation garage.

Ed Jutila of 23 Brainerd Road and State Representative was speaking in support of Care and Share's use of town space and added that they are a great organization and offer a great service. He added that he would like the Board to offer their support. He also supported the Children's Museum use of town property.

Andy Pappas of 11 Morton Street said that he was in support of both parcels leasing space in our municipal facilities.

Hearing no further comment, Mr. Formica closed the Public Hearing at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene C. Stevens, Recording Secretary

HARDEN A



CARE & SHARE OF EAST LYME, INC.

P. O. Box 114 East Lyme, CT 06333 860.739.8502 <u>http://www.careandshareofEL.org</u>

My name is Angie McLean, 180 Chesterfield Road, East Lyme. As President of Care & Share, and on behalf of the organization, I would like to make a few comments for the record at this public hearing relative to our proposed use of space at the 'Old Town Garage' on Roxbury Road.

Care & Share was started by four local women in 1989 who at that time distributed eight Thanksgiving baskets to local families in need. Now we are a 501 (c) (3) charitable corporation, with approximately 100 volunteers, serving some 500 clients in East Lyme/Niantic and Salem, with our organization supported through the generosity of residents, businesses, churches and our school-age children.

Our services include:

- *a year-round food pantry;
- *daily bread deliveries;
- *spring, summer and Thanksgiving food baskets;
- *Christmas/Chanukah food baskets as well as a holiday store filled with new items, where clients 'shop' for free to supplement their holiday gifts;
- *emergency financial, housing and energy assistance;
- *college scholarships and camperships;
- *emergency snacks and clothing to local school children;
- *support to the community with a winter coat program.

While it would be too time consuming to provide specifics on all our programs, we would like to highlight the extent of outreach relevant to some of them. So far this year there have been 183 food deliveries, feeding 581 people; 25 clients receive monthly either \$50, \$100 or \$150 toward electric, oil or rent, and year to date, payment to cover these same types of expenses have intermittently been disbursed to an additional 17 clients. Last year 58 kids were able to attend a variety of day or evening summer camps, and 6 college scholarships totaling \$15,000 were awarded to students.

The proposed single location for Care & Share would particularly facilitate our service to the East Lyme/Niantic and Salem communities by centralizing our pantry and our holiday store operations under one roof, thereby eliminating the annual need to call upon the generosity of the area's businesses for donations of holiday space. Additionally, and importantly, it will eliminate the need of seasonally operating and maintaining two separate locations, a situation that requires transporting various dropped-off items from one store to another. Assuming we become established in a fixed location, our visibility can be expected to increase, thereby eliminating confusion over our whereabouts for donors, clients and volunteers alike.

Your consideration and time is much appreciated.

May 16, 2012

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