



March Waterside Coalition Meeting
Thursday, March 26th at 7:00pm
St. Clement's Church 535 Fairfield Avenue

AGENDA

- I. Welcome and announcements – Ben Velishka, Chairman
- II. Update from City Representatives - John Boccuzzi & Elaine Mitchell
- III. Guest Speakers – Dr. Joshua Starr, Superintendent of Stamford Schools

FUTURE WATERSIDE COALITION MEETING DATES:

The Coalition meets the **fourth Thursday** of each month at 7:00pm at St. Clement's Church:
Apr. 23; May 28; June 25; July 23

Come to the meeting and bring your questions concerning Stamford Schools. Dr. Joshua Starr will be present to address your concerns and answer your questions.

Grant Money Awarded to WC

WC has been awarded \$5,000.00 from the Neighborhood Empowerment Grant toward installing new fencing at Southfield Park.

Mayor Malloy will distribute the Grant award check at a ceremony on March 26, 5:30pm in the Senior Center on the 2nd floor of the Government Center.

Your attendance at this ceremony is important and will show the Mayor support from the Waterside Community.

Treva Franks, CTE - Highlights:

- CTE works with the business community, other City agencies, displaced workers, & job developers in order to provide pt/ft jobs; job training and educational opportunities.
- Offers residents energy, food & financial assistance & before & after care programs for children.
- Money is available for 18-21 year olds who will not attend college but seek employment; information and training are available.
- Treva Franks can be reached at 352-4824; ffranks@ctecap.org and www.ctecap.org.

Chairperson: Althea S. Brown

Speaker: Lieutenant Dohmann and Captain Mullin

Next Meeting: Tues, at 5:30pm Mar 24;

Place: J&D Pizza - 432 Fairfield Avenue – All are invited!
Free food!

Overview of previous meeting:

- Illegal dumping- should be reported to John Boccuzzi; also the recycling centers in Stamford are free to city residents – 200 lbs of trash can be brought to the dump every day it's open.
- Graffiti & Blight – report any incidences of blight & graffiti to John Boccuzzi
- Southfield Park – the gate is currently not being locked; the police will begin locking it in April or May.
- Southfield Park – man with a gun – police were called.
- Suspicious Individuals – several sightings of suspicious people have been reported. If you see anyone suspicious, call the police - 911 for emergencies or for non-emergencies 977-4444. Don't intervene yourself.
- Remember to lock your cars and your homes at all times.

Community News

Waterside Neighborhood Compliance Committee

Objective: to have residents identify and seek resolution to problem(s) within their neighborhood.

E-mail althea.brown@watersidecoalition.org. or fax 274-7598

From the Waterside Coalition:

- Althea Brown, WC's Community Director, will be in the Office Sat. mornings from 9-12. Call first.: phone – 274-7597; fax – 274-7598; e-mail – althea.brown@watersidecoalition.org.
- The WC will be collecting & distributing food for our Waterside neighbors who are in need. You can participate by dropping off non-perishable food during the monthly mtgs. or give it to a board member. Money donations are also accepted. Make check payable to Waterside Coalition and indicate Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County in the memo section.
- The highway dept will begin minor road repairs; residents may report needed repairs to the Citizen Service Center, John Boccuzzi, or Althea Brown.
- The mobile breast inspection unit will be coming to Waterside; volunteers are needed to help make this happen. Contact Ben Velishka for information.
- Traffic Calming – They want our input! Visit the web site: www.stamfordtrafficcalming.com to see their proposals and then e-mail comments by March 31 to Joe Rimiller: jhrimiller@urbanengineers.com
- Home heating & lighting conservation – WC will make available to residents FREE energy efficient light bulbs and weather stripping kits.
- On Feb 18, Congressman Jim Himes joined the Stamford Partnership & neighborhood organizations to discuss the Economic Recovery Act for CT. Details are on the WC website.
- WC's May speaker will be Renee Kahn from the Historical Housing Association.

The Waterside Coalition has launched a new web site. This is the place to check for news, events and resources.

Please visit us at:

<http://www.watersidecoalition.org/>

Housing: Affordable housing is now available in Stamford:

1. Fairgate, Charter Oakes Community (the former Fairfield Court); contact Marysol Velez-Rodriguez in the Admissions Department at 977-1400, X3328 with any questions.
2. Metro Green Apts (84 Henry St); applications are available until April 30 through CTE; call for requirements & applications.

Jobs – CTE has posted three job opportunities –

1. Census jobs – apply now – hourly positions; call CTE (203-993-8030) to schedule an appt. to take the test. Must be a US citizen, 18 or older.

2. Playland is hiring now for summer positions; call CTE immediately if interested or download application and mail to Playland; details are also on our website: <http://www.watersidecoalition.org/>
3. Hospitality job training for 18-21 year olds who are not going to college – e-mail CTE at training@ctecap.org

Free Tax Help – There is an earned income tax credit available to those whose income is less than \$42,000. and to Seniors, but you must file taxes. **FREE centers for low-income filers:** CTE by appointment 352-4846; Yerwood Center 352-2790; St. Mary's RC Church 324-7321; **for senior filers:** St. Luke's Lifeworks by appointment 388-0129; Bennett Library 351-8298; Union Memorial Church 324-6715; Stamford Senior Center by appointment 977-5151.

A Safe Driving Course will be held April 18 & 25 at the Senior Center in the Government Center; must be over 55; call to register – 977-5151

The Ferguson Library has many programs worth considering. Here are three

1. ESL Conversation groups 6:30 PM
Learn to speak English at this **free** drop-in conversation group. Wednesdays, at the main branch Thursdays at the South End Branch
Children's programs also available at the same time. Ages 5 – 10. Registration required (for children only). Call 351-8228 or 8226.
2. Learn a new language on-line through the library!
TELL ME MORE®Online is designed for learning English as a Second Language, as well as Spanish, French, German, Italian and Dutch & is available only to Stamford residents. Register at the Main Branch or at their web site.
3. **FREE AARP Tax Counseling** - at Harry Bennett Branch; Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays until April 13th from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Free tax assistance to low and middle income taxpayers, with special attention to those 60 and older. No appointment needed. Bring your 2008 tax documents and a copy of your 2007 returns

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Ben Velishka

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