ENFIELD PRISON/TOWN LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, June 12, 2019 – 6:00 PM
Enfield Room Town Hall

1. Call to Order
   Nelson Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2. Roll Call of Members
   Present for the meeting were Nancy Harvey, Steve Niemitz, Nelson Rodriguez, Kenneth Edgar, Timothy Slade and Gretchen Pfeifer-Hall.

   Also Present: Alexis Nai – Recording Secretary

   Present from the town of Enfield – Council Woman Donna Szewczak

   Present from the Enfield Police Department: Chief Alaric Fox, Captain Steven Kaselouskas.

   Present from the Department of Corrections:

   Carl Robinson
   Deputy Warden Carolyn McClendon (arrived at 6:30 PM)

   Willard Cybulski
   Deputy Warden Trina Sexton

3. Review of Minutes
   a. March 13, 2019 – Mr. Edgar motioned to accept the minutes of March 13, 2019, Mr. Slade Seconded the motion. The minutes were approved (4-0-2).

4. Election of Chairman
   Mr. Edgar motioned to nominate Nelson Rodriguez as Chairman, Ms. Pfeifer-Hall seconded the motion. All in favor (6-0-0).
5. **Old Business**


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<th>Warden</th>
<th>Correctional Institute</th>
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<th>03/2019</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Willard Cybulski Correctional Institute</td>
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<td>Caron</td>
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   b. Review of Significant Incidents or Policy Changes at Prisons

   **Willard Cybulski Correctional** –
   
   There has been organizational changes within the DOC. Trina Sexton is Deputy Warden (programs and treatment) and Gerald Wood is Deputy Warden (operations)

   Deputy Warden Sexton stated The Asnuntuck program has been suspended. The work furlough programs have been reinstated. There are two inmates at Boatworks and eight at Whitcraft. They have scheduled tours and security checks by officers. The criteria to partake in the programs have been changed to that they have to have two years. The prisoner who escaped met the criteria at the time. They continue to have the inmates earned GED’s. They were picked as one of five facilities that are modeling family interactions. They have early childhood programs and workshops. They are remodeling lobbies to facilitate better family interactions. They have received grants to help inmates transition. They will be providing services for the Fourth of July celebration.

   Mr. Rodriguez what changes were being made in the visiting areas.

   Deputy Warden Sexton stated that currently there is a divider between the inmate and visitors that creates trauma and negative side effects for the kids. Some of the initiatives are rolling out contact visits who demonstrate they want to be part of the children’s lives. The practices were developed with the corrections grant along with the urban institute. They are not implementing all of them, but selecting a few including the visiting room to provide better interactions. There is no money associated with the grant, but a technical and consultative service. The legislative tour is scheduled. Carl Robinson is scheduled for June 26th at 10:00 am.

   Mr. Rodriguez recommended if the members are interested in seeing it to call and request.

   Ms. Pfeifer-Hall asked if the grant program was suspended.
Deputy Warden Sexton stated the theory portion is still in flight, the hands on part has been suspended.

Ms. Pfeifer-Hall questioned if the hands on would be reinstated.

Deputy Warden Sexton stated they are not sure if that part of the program will be reinstated.

Councilwoman Szewczak noted she toured the last time and thought the program was great to see inmates with a skill set and not a revolving door of incarceration.

Deputy Warden Sexton noted that one of the program graduates recently was hired at Pratt and Whitney, so it is a successful program.

Ms. Pfeifer-Hall questioned if the change and suspension has to do with a change in leading government. She noted Governor Malloy was adamant about this program.

Deputy Warden Sexton noted that nothing has changed with the message from the new governor.

Mr. Niemitz questioned if there was a correctional officer on sight.

Deputy Warden Sexton noted the department of corrections paid for a security officer. Unfortunately, when the suspension happened, it also affected the work furlough program. It greatly affected the companies that hired the inmates. They petitioned the governor to get the inmates back into the program.

If the inmates do not complete the program by November, the inmates will lose a second chance at the Pell Grant.

Mr. Niemitz questioned if it would it help if the committee took a stance on it.

Deputy Warden Sexton noted the committee could take a stance, but not sure how much it will affect. Safety and security is their top priority.

There have been no significant incidents at the facility in the past quarter.

**Carl Robinson Correctional**
Carolyn McClendon stated the new Warden of Robinson CI is Zelynette Caron, Deputy Wardens Thomas Kenny (operations) and Carolyn McClendon (programs and treatment). There have been no significant incidents at the facility.

c. Asnuntuck Community College
d. Plans for Closing Enfield Correctional Facility
Open Forum and Public Participation – Town Councilwoman Szewczak questioned what will happen to the large amount of land with the prison closing. Will there be any availability for Town development. Are there any renovations to Enfield?

Deputy Warden Sexton stated Carl Robinson is having renovations done, nothing at Enfield. There are legislative plans for different programs to potentially use some of the vacant space.

Chief Fox stated there have been no issues, communications with DOC is very positive and they appreciate that cooperation. Chief Fox Introduced Captain Steven Kaselouskas.

6. **Date of Next Meeting** - September 11, 2019

7. **Adjournment**
   Mr. Edgar motioned to adjourn at 6:27 PM Mr. Slade seconded the motion. All were in favor (6-0-0).