

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
PRISON LIAISON/PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, July 18, 2012  
7:30 p.m.  
Downstairs Town Hall Conference Room**

**MINUTES**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** by Chairman Robert Minch at 7:32 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Robert Minch, Raymond LaFlamme, Charles Colby, Osborn CI Warden Carol Chapdelaine, Don Cyr for Northern CI Warden Ed Maldonado, Willard /Cybulski CI Warden John Tarascio, Lincoln Pease, Marie Leonard, District Administrator Angel Quiros.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Gail Hoff, Tom Clark, Ned Lynch, Jerry Young.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Motion to accept the minutes of the January 18, 2012 meeting as amended was carried. (Colby/Pease)

**OLD BUSINESS:** Chairman Minch and Charles Colby apologized for not updating the committee's web page on the town's web site last quarter but promised to make more of an effort this quarter.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- District Administrator Quiros informed the committee that the Department of Corrections is anticipating a law suit by the American Civil Liberties Union. The A.C.L.U. is alleging that the practice of solitary confinement is too common and is a violation of the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution which prohibits the government from inflicting "cruel and unusual punishment" upon its citizens. The DOC has taken a proactive role in establishing their defense by making several changes at Northern CI. The most significant change is the re-classification of inmates being housed at that facility. This re-classification has resulted in an inmate reduction at Northern of over 116 since this time last year. The current count is 250.
- D. A. Quiros also reported that there are no correctional facilities scheduled to be closed at this time.
- A question was asked about the status of the former juvenile detention center on the corner of Taylor and Shaker Roads. D.A. Quiros thought that facility no longer belonged to the DOC but will check into it.
- Chairman Minch received a letter from the DOC inviting members to tour their facilities during scheduled open-houses. Chairman Minch will email members the schedule.
- Marie Leonard inquired about the recent activity on Bilton Road involving prison personnel. It was explained that the correctional officers' union was involved in a possible merger with a Massachusetts union and that the DOC was aware of the picketing and monitoring the situation.

**Review of Significant Incidents or Policy Changes in Prisons**

- Osborn CI: Warden Chapdelaine had nothing to report.
- Northern CI: Don Cyr had nothing to report.
- Willard/Cybulski CI: Warden Tarascio reported that a work detail from his facility has

completed extensive maintenance and landscaping work at the Knights of Columbus facility in Somers. Other work details are being scheduled through the First Selectman's office and include projects at the Firehouse, Town Hall, State Trooper's Office, Senior Center, two homes in the Historic District, Piedmont Hall and the Kibbe Fuller Building. In addition, Warden Tarascio reports that a bumper crop of vegetables has been produced in the fields on his facility this year. Much of this produce goes back into the system. What is left over is donated to local food shelves.

**BED COUNT:**

Facility	Bed Count	Increase/Decrease	Maximum Capacity
Willard Cybulski CI	1161	+6	1104
Northern CI	250	-41	586
Osborn CI	1908	-19	None set
TOTALS	3319	-54	

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 8:11. (Colby/Chapdelaine)

Respectfully submitted,

Raymond J. LaFlamme, Recording Secretary  
Town of Somers

***MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING***