



**SINT EUSTATIUS
CARIBISCH NEDERLAND**

**List decisions and commitments public meeting Island Council, March 4th 2021, 09.30 am
at the V.A. Lopes Legislative Hall**

Present:

M. van Rij, chairman

R. Merkmán R. Leerdam, F. Spanner, C. van Putten, N. Sneek, members

H. van Berkel acting griffier and M. Humphreys intern, griffie

Also present: A. Francis, wnd.RC

Absent:

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| 1. | Opening | Decisions and commitments |
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| | The meeting started at 9.40am | |
| 2. | Announcements | |
| | Chairman: announces about the Covid-19 vaccine program, the results and the further progress. He will be leaving the meeting at 10.25am to attend another meeting with Ministry of Health. Ms. Francis will take over as Chair lady. | |
| 3. | Setting of the agenda and the closed setting. | |
| | Mr. K. Sneek: states that he has prepared a draft motion regarding the Banking system on the island. | The council decides to set the agenda while moving point 6 to point 7 and agenda point 7 will be moved to agenda point 8. |
| 4. | List of incoming documents | |
| | | The list has been ratified and Mr. Sneek shared out his adjusted motion list to other Island Council members. |
| 5. | Waste ordinance | |
| | Topics during the discussion: M.v.Rij: informs that after earlier discussion there is now a somewhat adjusted draft ordinance to decide on. - K.Sneek: make sure there is enough awareness and beware the financial burden for the people. A long term vision is also important. R. Leerdam: wants firm communication and likes to ensure that government departments themselves act also according to the regulations. C.v.Putten: warns for the consequences of adopting the ordinance and indicates that a good cooperation between government and the Waste plant is necessary. | M.van Rij: a technical meeting is scheduled on the 25 th of March with E&A and the director of the Waste plant. Communication with the people will be a priority. Other executing subject will have a proper attention out of the Executive Council. A. Francis: costs will rise, but government will be careful. The |



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| | <p>Considers council is not ready to decide today and would not be yet in the interest of the people. A rush leads to disappointments.</p> | <p>vision behind the ordinance will be explained to civil servants. The Island Council decides with 4 votes for and 1 vote (C.v.Putten) against to adopt the ordinance.</p> |
| 6. | <p><u>Motion K. Sneek: banking system</u></p> | |
| | <p>K. Sneek/A.Spanner: put a signed motion regarding the banking system on the table. K. Sneek informs the Island Council about the considerations to put the motion on the table. A.Spanner: finds custom-relation important and together with the other arguments stated in the motion, has co-signed the motion. R.Merkman: the motion is a good idea. Saba and Statia do not have a mortgage guarantee-system, a bank-monopoly is no good and service could be much better. Issues like landpolicy and building homes are very much linked to a mature and well-organized banking system. Misses some issues in the considerations. C.v.Putten: refers to the really need of people, to the situation at Bonaire and takes the Policy as an example. He will not oppose when a Dutch bank is coming in a free market, but the discussion should go about the needs and not the introduction of the Euro. He doesn't believe in integration with the Dutch system. R.Leerdam: wants to ask the Dutch government for help at this point and in this stage. Wants also some statements extra in the motion. After discussion mr. Sneek withdraws the motion.</p> <p>After a short recess an adjusted motion is being put on the table, signed by K. Sneek, R. Merkman, R.Leerdam and A. Spanner. C.v.Putten: "the Dutch" destroyed the economy of the island and still want to keep people on the poverty line. He has problems with imposing policy out from Den Haag. He expects the motion will not change anything and therefore he is against.</p> | <p>The Island Council adopts the motion that has been changed during the meeting by individual voting with 4 votes for and 1 vote (C.v.Putten) against. The Executive Council will execute the motion and will also in due time inform the Island Council about the progress that has been made.</p> |
| 7. | <p><u>Update earlier motions</u></p> | |
| | <p><u>a. Motion Housing Foundation</u></p> | <p>a. Taken for notice.</p> |



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| <p>A.Spanner: the main goal is good and sufficient social housing and shorten the waiting list. Therefore, a strong and robust Housing Foundation is needed. After the progress that is made, executing the motion “social housing” would be of great risk because subsidy is depending on the number of houses. Social housing is also one of the important issues to balance cost and income.</p> <p>K.Sneek: speedup building process is needed with more than 100personsonthewaitinglist. Discussion with Bazalt is necessary.</p> <p>R.Merkman: selling houses near Golden Rock means you can buy new houses and people get their own property. Conform market prices is no problem. Bazalt has to show more.</p> <p>R.Leerdam: asks about the roles each party has: Executive Council/Government Commissioners/ Island Council. What is the total market value?</p> <p>C.v.Putten: wants to see a motion adopted by the Island Council being executed. Seeks local ownership. People will not accept this.</p> <p>M. van Rij: states that the motion has been sent to the board of the Housing Foundation. Point 4 has been therefore executed in a democratic system. Selling 35 houses will not affect the housing situation.</p> <p>Accelerating the building processes and executing the building and renovating program and keeping as much houses as possible is very important.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Ministry would not approve a decision to execute selling. To many people that buy a house remain living their, so there is less flow in the market and people that want to rent a social house are being harmed. Director and board member will be asked for a technical briefing and together with the Executive Council all questions will be answered. The total market value has not been investigated. The Ministry subsidized \$ 15.000.000, -- to Bazalt. Being a request to the Executive Council the motion can and will not be executed but discussion with Bazalt and the Housing Foundation with the Island Council will be fostered.</p> | <p>b. The names of the members of the 2 committees regarding to Emancipation Day will be sent to the Island Council.</p> |
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| | <p>b. Motion Dialysis M.van Rij: everyone has the same goal on this subject, but installing a center like this, with equipment, housing, personnel and doctors on the island will not happen in the first quarter 2021. All stakeholders agree that keeping on working to it, is important. All members emphasize the need to give priority to this issue and are disappointed about the slow process. A.Spanner: a timetable is needed. R.Merkman: Colombia could be of help? C.v.Putten: calls for the people to stand up and use means outside the democratic system. A. Francis: public health has been in the frontline during the COVID-19 period. All parties are now sitting at the same table and act responsible. Awareness is also important as it comes to the danger of being diabolic.</p> <p>c. Motion Emancipation Day A.Francis expects a good outcome soon by exchanging the day. Refers to two committees.</p> <p>d. Motion Winair connectivity M.van Rij: the Executive Council is fully working on all 4 points of the motion.</p> | |
| 9. | Closing at 17.00 pm | |

Attachment:

20210304 Adopted motion banking system

Adopted by the Island Council on April 15th 2021.

The registrar,

The chairlady,

J.C.M. van Berkel.

A. Francis.