

COMMUNITY FOREST COMMISSION

MINUTES FROM APRIL 18, 2019

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BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

- 1) Meeting convened by co-chair Nancy Mancini at 5:10 pm. Present were Louise LaMontagne, co-chair, Shirley McCarthy, Dan Fitzgerald and guests Richard Shanahan, David McCarthy. Absent: Diana Ross, tree warden, Gary Zielinski, Public Works, Doug Welch.
- 2) Minutes of the March 21, 2019 meeting were approved.
- 3) Guest Richard Shanahan presented a report as to the progress and current status of the effort to curb destructive effects of "quad riding" on public property in Branford, particularly in the Pisgah Preserve area. Richard had marked trails in that location but the markers were removed. Little progress has been made with respect to police action. Strategies to be tried: increase access and use of Pisgah Preserve which would increase public awareness; investigate how other neighboring towns use (or don't use) police to control riding.
- 4) Guest David McCarthy, recently hired by the Town as Diana Ross' assistant, filled the commission in on his background, which includes being a graduate of the Yale School of Environmental Studies, being a communications specialist and working for the New Haven Urban Resources Initiative. He is interested in helping us with our website i.e. targeting our audience, avoid talking "at people", and planning joint strategies with like-minded groups.
- 5) Arbor Day: brief discussion of events on April 27 on the green 10:30 and April 26 at Branford Point at 10.
- 6) Clean up day, April 27 is ready to role per Dan.
- 7) New Business: Dan discussed the de-accession of utility companies' rights of way and his plan to use one or more as chestnut tree nurseries.
- 8) Motion to adjourn made by Shirley McCarthy, seconded by Dan Fitzgerald at 6:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Louise LaMontagne, acting secretary.