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TOWN OF BRANFORD
COMMUNITY FOREST COMMISSION
MINUTES, JUNE 20, 2019

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

Meeting convened by co-chair, Nancy Mancini, at 5:04 pm. Present were Louise LaMontagne, co-chair, Shirley McCarthy, Dan Fitzgerald and Doug Welch. Absent were Diana Ross, tree warden and Gary Zielinski, Acting Head of Public Works

- 1) Minutes from the May 16th meeting were approved, Motion by Shirley McCarthy, second by Doug Welch.
- 2) Parkside Village: Discussion was had re: proposal to widen Sliney Rd to accommodate construction vehicles and equipment. This would involve blasting of rock and removal of many trees. Scenic Roads was involved in the prior proposal several years ago.. It was agreed that Karalee Hall should be contacted and a letter sent to P&Z re: the CFC's preference for the use of Melrose Ave for construction access.
- 3) Diana Ross has had a discussion with Harry Smith, Town Planner, (based on recent disastrous erosion at Stony Creek Crossing) re; regulation, ordinance, etc. to require a developer to consult with an arborist prior to commencement of development.
- 4) Nancy and Louise reported that our ordinance has passed the Rules and Ordinances (subject to certain clerical adjustments) and they hope it will be taken up by the RTM at its special meeting on July 9th, 2019.
- 5) Branford Fest: Discussion took place re; need for better signage and leaflets describing mission of CFC. Also , the success of the pollinator give-aways was noted. Dan will undertake this project and will consult with David McCarthy (tree warden's office) on this.
- 6) Nancy reported on the progress of the regional group of tree commissions'/ tree wardens' meeting to discuss common issues. Mikey Hirschhoff has been in contact with Chris Donnelly at DEEP and Eric Hammerling at CT Forest and Parks and state legislature.
- 7) The CFC will need a new commissioner soon to replace Louise who is stepping down. The preference for a botanist was emphasized.
- 8) New Business: First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove has mentioned the desirability of an American Chestnut orchard (s) in town. Discussion ensued over location, methodology, etc. CFC is enthusiastically onboard. Dan to f/u with the first selectman.
- 9) New Business: 4th ward planting plan should be revisited.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15, motion made by Nancy, seconded by Louise.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise LaMontagne, acting secretary.