

**BRANFORD GREEN COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
HELD DECEMBER 10, 2019**

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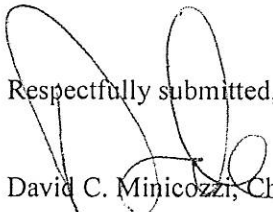
**PRESENT:** David Minicozzi (*Dave*), David Colley, Don Gentile, Pat Sanders, Laura Noe, Cynde Jasek

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:33 PM.
2. **Parliamentary/Technical:**
  - a. **Minutes-** David Colley moved for the minutes of the November regular meeting be approved said motion being seconded by Laura, and after discussion were unanimously approved.
  - b. **Meeting dates-** a list of 2020 meeting dates were distributed and members were encouraged to calendar them accordingly.
3. **Updates & Old Business:**
  - a. **Correspondence-** none
  - b. **Status of the Green-** the general condition of the Green was discussed.
  - c. **Memorial tree donations-** continued discussion of how to recognize contributions in a more public and permanent way, e.g., a plaque in Town Hall etc. A suggestion was made that a good location would be the wall adjacent to the staircase in the Town Hall foyer.
  - d. **Special Project Status-** *1. post clock:* Laura suggested we look in to a Branford Community Foundation (“BCF”) grant and will follow up on same; *ii. No Sign Policy:* a draft was circulated and suggestions were made, e.g., that signs are subject to removal without notice, and that signs are exempt if they are associated with events on the Green or are connected with a church or other official function; *iii. Notable Tree Program* and other matters TBD.
4. **New Business:**
  - a. **Green Use Applications-** three were presented: *i. Smile Anyway’s Educate on Drug Epidemic* event 8/29/20; *ii. Branford Education Foundation’s Sunday Storytellers* event 9/20/20; *iii. Friends of Blackstone Library Annual Book Sale 9/24-27/2020.* Suggestion that the current application form be updated to include a more detailed description of proposed events, as many applications (such as a few of the above referenced) are vague as to the purpose and type of the event. It was also remarked that some of the events are non-compliant with the *No Parking* policy, e.g., the Smile Anyway event, Family Day etc., during which automobiles etc. are parked on the Green for various purposes, e.g., load in/load out of bands, food trucks etc.
  - b. **Reports-** Pat reported The Garden Club switched out the hanging baskets on the Green for winter baskets. Laura attended the Pollinator Pathway meeting sponsored by Branford Conservation/Environmental Commission and the Community Forestry Commission and gave a report of said meeting. Suggestion made that a “green summit” be held which pulls all green-related commissions etc. together for an idea-sharing conference.

- c. **Planting Plans 2020-** Dave and a number of Committee members met with **Jamie Cosgrove** on December 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss potential plantings on the Green for spring 2020. Funds for same can be made available on an as-needed basis. **Dave** summarized that meeting and the following plan was generally approved by the Committee regarding four (4) separate matters in the following priority: **i.** replacement of the diseased "*Black Hills*" *white spruce* recently planted adjacent to Town Hall. This was discussed at the *Annual Green Walk* last September, which discussion was attended by **Jamie** and **Cameron Pierce** of *Care of Trees*. Replacement to be made while still under warranty; **ii.** replacement of the *big sugar maple* that was removed adjacent to the Academy. Discussion with various Town officials hit upon the idea of a *white oak*, which coincides with the Academy Commission's wish to plant an oak tree in commemoration of the State Charter Oak Tree. A May planting would be preferable; **iii.** planting 3-4 smaller trees in a semi-circle adjacent to the Shrub Garden at the corner of Main and Montowese. Thought given to the trees being the same *faux apple trees* to be planted along Main Street in front of Richlin; and **iv.** the *dead dogwood* in back of the Baptist Church needs to be replaced, the plan is to replace it with another dogwood for purposes of symmetry, planting to be done in the general area although not exactly where it is now. Details TBD at January's meeting, final choices to be made at our February meeting.
- d. **Other-** Priorities for 2020 were discussed.
- e. **Adjourn-** **Cynde** made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by **Laura**, and there being no discussion, the meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

*The next Green Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM at the Branford Fire Department Headquarters.*

Respectfully submitted,

  
David C. Minicozzi, Chairman and Secretary Pro Tem