

**BRANFORD GREEN COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
HELD JANUARY 8th, 2019**

RECEIVED

2019 JAN 14 P 1:04

PRESENT: David Minicozzi (*Dave*), David Colley, Bonnie McKirdy, Amy Graver,
Laura Noe, Cynthia Jasek
ABSENT: Maryanne Hall, Don Gentile, Pat Sanders
GUEST: First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove

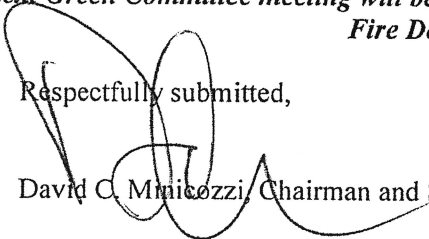
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:31 PM.
2. **Parliamentary/Technical:**
 - a. **Minutes-** **Bonnie** moved to approve the minutes for November and December 2018, **Laura** seconded and there being no discussion they were unanimously approved.
3. **Updates & Old Business:**
 - a. **Correspondence-** None.
 - b. **Status of the Green-** general discussion regarding topical issues including the Congregational Church's request for input regarding repairs to curbing and the driveway in front of the church and the removal of a dead cherry tree adjacent to the church (it was determined this is the church's responsibility); issue of replacement of the blue spruce at B51 (Green walk minutes indicate this is a TBD issue); **Diana Ross** will be contacted to confirm the spring planting plan: 3 trees along South Main Street in back of the Congregational Church (London plane, beech, non-sugar maple), and a red maple near the bus stop at the corner of Main and Montowese; the *First Night* event was well received/question of whether Branford can obtain a roll-a-way stage like the one donated by North Haven for the event/clean up after the event was very well done. It was suggested **Dave** submit a letter to *The Sound* congratulating the Town on the *First Night* event and explaining the Committee's role.
 - c. **Status of Planting Plans-** see above and below.
 - d. **POCD Update-** see below/public meeting is Thursday January 17th 7PM at Fire Department HQ.
 - e. **Special Project Status-** *i. Tower Clock:* see below; *ii. Tree & Shrub Donation Policy:* discussion centered on how to recognize donations; *iii. tree-saving sidewalks-* **Cynthia** presented research on the issue and will email it to **Dave** for distribution to the Committee; *iv. historic walking tours-* attendee and Historical Society President **Matt Radulski** and **Laura** discussed ways to further this idea. **Matt** suggested contacting **Peter Raymond** of the Yale School of Forestry for a referral to an arborist to assist in that aspect of the walking tours.
4. **New Business:**
 - a. **Green Use Applications-** None. **Trista** will be approached for an "Annual List of Events." See below for further discussion.
 - b. **Guest First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove-** **Jamie** fielded questions and informed the Committee on various topics including the following:

- i. **Tower clock-** although we all agree a clock should be erected a number of issues need to be resolved, e.g., sources and timing of funding, type of design, municipal approvals etc.;
 - ii. **parking on the Green-** continue current efforts to discourage parking, institute better wayfinding, seek long range solutions;
 - iii. **First Night event-** well run, considered a hit, cleanup was great, public liked the roll-a-way stage borrowed from North Haven, portable restrooms were removed immediately.
Note: cars were parked on the Green;
 - iv. **Green Use Applications-** the Committee urged the use of the new application form as it is cleaner and modernized, contains “no parking” language in the Guidelines, and will have a map attached showing the “no parking” zones;
 - v. **stage-** discussed dressing up the current stage to make it less unsightly;
 - vi. **regrading of Section “A”-** **Jamie** discussed the need for regrading of the front portion of the Green, and other possible upgrades and improvements, some of which may require the temporary closing of portions of the Green;
 - vii. **public restrooms-** question of if/when this matter will be addressed in such a way as to resolve issues of aesthetics, functionality etc.;
 - viii. **POCD-** discussion of why language regarding the “streamlining of management of the Green” remains in the 2019 draft as a leftover from the 2009 draft, and what can be done with it going forward;
 - ix.- **planting plans-** discussion of the two (2) planting plans: a) regarding new trees to be planted in coordination with **Diana Ross** and b) regarding the area between Town Hall and Trinity Church managed by **Nardella’s**, a copy of such plan to be provided to the Committee by **Jamie** for review.
- c. **Art application-** **Dave** informed the Committee he will be meeting with **Tony Terry et al.** from BACA to discuss an impending application.
- d. **Reports:** None.
- e. **Priorities-** a list of “priorities 2019” was briefly discussed, many of which are addressed above, and in addition are the following: drafting a policy regulating signs, posters, plaques etc.; hone our social media presence; continue efforts to identify and highlight *Notable Trees*; explore a *Clean the Green Day* event; establish a care plan for the false cypress garden and continue beautification of the South Main Street side of the Green; continue to update the GIS map; obtain periodic reports from Public Works and Park’n’Rec; consider a long range plan for a makeover of the Green as a whole.
- f. **Adjourn-** **Laura** made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by **Bonnie**, and there being no discussion, the meeting adjourned at 5:50PM

The next Green Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 12th at 4:30PM at the Branford Fire Department Headquarters.

Respectfully submitted,


David C. Minicozzi, Chairman and Secretary Pro Tem