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**BRANFORD GREEN COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
HELD JANUARY 10, 2017**

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

PRESENT: David Minicozzi, Jane Bouley, Maryanne Hall, Bonnie McKirdy, Jim MacBride,
David Colley, Donald Gentile, Tammy Becker

ABSENT: Winnifred Judge

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM.
2. **Secretary:** David M. took on the role of Secretary Pro Tem.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Bonnie moved to accept the December 13, 2016 meeting minutes and David Colley seconded. After due discussion the motion was then unanimously approved. David M. thanked Jane for taking on the role of Chairman/Secretary Pro Tem for the December 2016 meeting.
4. **Parliamentary/Technical:**
 - a. **Meeting dates for 2017-** to avoid confusion David M. will re-distribute a list of these dates to the Committee.
5. **Updates & Old Business:**
 - a. **Correspondence:** David M. will send "Thank You" letters and certificates to Alex Paluzzi (Director of Parks and Recreation), Tom Brennan (Director of Public Works) and Stephanie Linke (Director, Child Development Center, First Congregational Church) as follows: to Alex and Tom for their dedication to the wellbeing of the Branford Green; and to Stephanie for facilitating the integration of the re-dedicated church playground with the area adjacent to the Green and the National Champion False Cypress tree.
 - b. **Re-Location of Meetings:** discussion was had regarding the need to move our meetings due to the impending remodeling of the Community House. David M. performed reconnaissance of three (3) likely locations: Fire Department Headquarters, Police Department Headquarters and Canoe Brook Center. Discussion was had and photographs of the different locations were studied. David Colley made a motion that we relocate our meetings to the Branford Fire Department Headquarters starting with our February 14th meeting. Maryanne seconded the motion. After due discussion the motion carried unanimously.
 - c. **Green Walk Update/Departure of Tom Brennan:** David M. discussed a final report given to him by Tom Brennan, indicating the Public Works Department essentially completed all the tasks we requested at our Green Walk last October. David M. then announced Tom's resignation as Director of Public Works, wished him well, and indicated Tom was a very good friend of our Committee. Tom will be missed.
 - d. **Garden Club:** no report given; the next report will be at the beginning of spring.
 - e. **Public Restrooms:** Don gave a report on progress with this on-going project. He met with Alex Paluzzi to discuss various solutions to this issue. Don passed out literature regarding the

“Ultra-White” model of portable restroom. Its cost to the town (c.\$450.00/month for three (3) units) is well within Alex’s budget. Thought was given to moving the white vinyl fence currently circling the Green’s Christmas tree to the area adjacent to the proposed restroom facilities. The idea being to use the fence as a seasonal screen surrounding the facilities, and to move the fencing back and forth between the tree and restrooms during their respective seasons. Don presented a group of photographs illustrating the proposed layout of the fencing around the restroom facilities. The Committee generally thought this was a positive solution. Don was asked to engage in further discussions with Alex and return to the Committee with further information.

6. **Public Relations:** None.

7. **New Business:**

- a. **Proposed Main Street Roundabout:** Janice Plaziak, Town Engineer, made a presentation to the Committee regarding the proposed Main Street Roundabout. She was joined by Joseph Balskus, P.E. First Selectman Jamie Cosgrove also attended the presentation. Janice’s presentation included an explanation of the definition of a “roundabout”; the various types of roundabouts; safety issues; traffic flow; impact on local businesses; timeline for construction; cost of design (town will pay b/w \$300-400,000.00 for same); need for the roundabout as opposed to maintaining the current street configuration. A similar presentation was given to the Branford Revitalization Commission and was met with their approval. A public hearing on this matter will be held in February or March.

Selectman Cosgrove indicated the proposed roundabout is part of a general “Master Plan” to integrate the stretch of Main Street along the Green with the old “4th Ward.”

The Committee members actively engaged in Q&A with Janice in an effort to discern the nature and scope of the project and other details regarding same.

Subsequent to the presentation the Committee reconvened to discuss what it had just heard. David M. asked the Committee members to provide him written feedback as soon as possible. He will distill this information in to a “list of concerns” to be presented to the First Selectman, the Town Engineer and even perhaps at the public hearing.

- b. **Other Agenda Items:** David M. indicated the remainder of the calendared agenda items would be taken up at the February 14th meeting.

David M. asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, which motion was made by Don, seconded by Maryanne and unanimously approved. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.

*The next Green Committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, February 14, 2016 at 4:30PM** at the **Branford Fire Department Headquarters.***

Respectfully submitted,

/ s /

David C. Minicozzi
Chairman and Secretary Pro Tem