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SEP 18 2017

BRANFORD GREEN COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 12, 2017

BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

PRESENT: David Minicozzi (*Dave*), Jane Bouley, Don Gentile, Jim MacBride, Pat Sanders, Tammy Becker

ABSENT: Maryanne Hall, Bonnie McKirdy, David Colley

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM.
2. **Parliamentary/Technical:**
- a. **Approval of Minutes:** **Jim** moved to accept the July 11, 2017 meeting minutes, **Pat** seconded and they were unanimously approved.
3. **Updates & Old Business:**
 - a. **Correspondence:** none.
 - b. **Public Restrooms-** a general discussion ensued regarding appropriate follow up. **Dave** noted he and **Don** met with **Alex** on-site a number of times over the summer to discuss the various technical challenges involved with fence placement and general decoration. In spite of these challenges the Committee will continue its efforts to beautify the area adjacent to the restrooms.
 - c. **Curbing-** **Dave** reported curbing along Taintor Drive was completed. Committee members expressed their general satisfaction with the job. Discussion ensued regarding the need for further curb upgrades especially adjacent to the public restrooms (see above).
 - d. **Meeting with Nardella's Turf Care-** **Pat** report on her meeting on the Green with **Mr. Nardella**. She walked the Green with him to discuss areas in need of particular attention including the Cenotaph and the Circle Garden at Montowese and Main. **Pat** and **Dave** will approach **Alex** to obtain a copy of the contract with Nardella to ascertain the exact nature of their duties. **Pat** also agreed to maintain contact with Nardella in an effort to keep the Committee informed of his activities and responsibilities as they relate to the Green.

Regarding divisions of labor **Pat** pointed out Nardella's is responsible for maintenance of the Circle Garden, the area between Town Hall and Trinity Church, the area adjacent to the Cenotaph, the area between the Town Hall and the Congregational Church, and the "Rain Garden" in the parking lot near Assagio. The Garden Club is responsible for the Flagpole Garden, Mae McCabe Lilly Garden, the MADD Plaque and the Yale Monument.

4. **New Business:**
 - a. **Green Use Applications:** **Dave** presented applications received by **Trista** since the last batch she received. Remaining events for the year include "Annual Family Day" on 9/17 (Branford Counselling Center), an "Educational Arts Fair" on/about 9/23 (Branford Education Foundation), "Annual Book Sale" the week of 9/25 (Friends of Blackstone Library, "Animal Awareness Day" on 10/1 (Branford Compassion Club), "Branford Walk Like MADD" on

10/14 (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) and “Scarecrows on the Green” 10/18-11/7. Committee members who know anyone associated with these events were encouraged to tell event leaders the importance of *not* parking on the Green. Regarding “Animal Awareness Day,” the painting of permanent “paw prints” on the pavement should be discouraged as no organization is to leave any permanent marks on/about the Green and its surroundings.

- b. **Annual Green Walk- Bonnie** scheduled the Walk for Friday September 29th at 9AM to begin at the Town Hall Steps. **First Selectman Cosgrove** and **Tree Warden Diana Ross** are to be invited.
- c. **Meeting with First Selectman: Dave** reported on the “Stakeholder’s Meeting” with the First Selectman and others on July 13th. General topics were discussed including curbing, parking and restrooms. Dave will follow up to obtain another meeting some time in the fall.
- d. **Garden Club Report: Pat** reported on three (3) topics: 1. “Scarecrows on the Green” (see above), 2. winter baskets will be placed along Main Street after Halloween, and 3. a fundraiser featuring “smart hors’dourves” will be held Sunday October 8th 2-5 at the Blackstone Library. Tickets are \$25.00 and further details will be forthcoming.

5. Other-

- a. The Committee rapidly discussed the need for a writer to draft articles regarding Green-related topics for local publications; social media ; a comparison of the treescape on North Main Street in Wallingford with that of South Main Street in Branford; the Town Green “Tree Inventory” Map; and efforts to save/move the Ginko Tree adjacent to the Community House. This last item generated much discussion as it was noted the tree may be quite old and may possess historic and botanical value. **Dave** will reach out to the Connecticut Notable Tree Program to obtain recon on the tree.

Dave asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting which was made by **Jane**, seconded by **Jim** and unanimously approved. The meeting then adjourned at 5:38PM.

*The next Green Committee meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 10 2017 at 4:30PM** at the **Branford Fire Department Headquarters.***

Respectfully submitted,

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David C. Minicozzi, Chairman and Secretary Pro Tem