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**BRANFORD GREEN COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
HELD OCTOBER 9, 2018**

PRESENT: David Minicozzi (*Dave*), David Colley, Laura Noe, Amy Graver, Cynthia Jasek

ABSENT: Maryanne Hall, Bonnie McKirdy, Don Gentile, Pat Sanders

GUEST: Diana Ross

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:48 PM.
2. **Parliamentary/Technical:**
 - a. **Minutes-** upon motion made by **David** and seconded by **Laura** the minutes of July 10 and September 18 were unanimously approved.
3. **Updates & Old Business:**
 - a. **Correspondence-** None.
 - b. **Status of the Green-** discussion regarding the following topics: *i. damage to the Green-* damage to Section "A" was evident subsequent to this year's annual library book sale. Re-seeding had taken place but not sure if it will take since *Animal Awareness Day* occurred just a few days later. Suggestions to avoid/minimize such damage were discussed. The promoters of the book sale may make a monetary contribution to the Town to defray the cost of re-seeding etc.; *ii. restrooms-* it was agreed the units and the surrounding area need to be beautified and otherwise dealt with.; *iii. stage-* discussion of whether better staging can be found; and *iv. signs on the Green-* plans were discussed to draft a policy for the regulation of signs, handbills, posters etc. The Committee will continue to work with officials toward useful solutions to these issues.

In addition, the false cypress garden looks great; the recent "*Sound*" article regarding the garden was remarked upon; **Dave** reported the garden is getting "weedy" and asked that each of us, in our travels as we pass by the garden, pitch in and weed a bit when we can. Weeds can be left on the apron in back of the garden and someone has been coming along to dispose of them.

- c. **Special Project Status-** *i. Tower Clock:* **Amy** will reach out to Selectman Cosgrove regarding this matter. It was suggested the clock be made part of the Branford 375th birthday celebration next year; *ii. Tree & Shrub Donation Policy:* the latest draft was distributed prior to the meeting and discussion deferred on same for presentation and articulation by **Don** at November's meeting.
4. **New Business:**
 - a. **Green Use Applications-** None, although **Laura** reported the application regarding the First Amendment Wall is awaiting an opinion from the Town Attorney.
 - b. **Annual Green Walk-** verified this will be held *Tuesday October 16th at 4:30PM*. We will meet at the Town Hall steps. **Bonnie** has invited various town officials and **Dave** will ask her to send them a reminder. Since we only do this once per year it is important we attend.

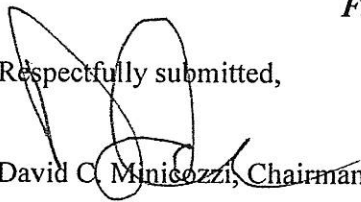
- c. **Reports:** Dave passed along a note from Pat that this year's "Scarecrows on the Green" event (sponsored by the Branford Garden Club) is about to commence. David announced a speaker will present a discourse on "civility in public life" at the 10AM Congregational Church service on Sunday October 28th.
- d. **Guest Diana Ross-** Inland Wetlands Director **Diana Ross** visited. She explained her role as Tree Warden and also how that relates to the Green and the Green Committee. We reviewed maps of two areas for the planting of trees. *First*, the area in back of the Congregational Church between Blackstone Avenue and the false cypress garden. It was generally agreed we will plant, from west to east, a London plane tree, a copper beech and a red maple. Alternative plans should be made in the event of unavailability of species etc. *Second*, **Diana** suggested we begin considering planting some trees in back of/adjacent to the restrooms as some of the current trees (older maples near parking lot, old blue spruce missing its top) are looking sketchy and may be in need of replacement. *Still to be decided:* what will replace the maple to be taken down by the bus stop.

5. **Ideas-** In the interest of time ideas were put on hold until November's meeting.

Laura made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by **Amy** and unanimously approved. The meeting then adjourned at 5:50 PM.

The next Green Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 13th at 4:30PM at the Branford Fire Department Headquarters.

Respectfully submitted,


David C. Minicozzi, Chairman and Secretary Pro Tem