

**BRANFORD GREEN COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
HELD NOVEMBER 14, 2017**

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PRESENT: David Minicozzi (*Dave*), Jim MacBride, David Colley, Jane Bouley, Bonnie McKinley, Pat Sanders, Maryanne Hall

ABSENT: Tammy Becker, Don Gentile

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 4:37 PM.

2. **Parliamentary/Technical:**

a. **Approval of Minutes:** David Colley moved to accept the October 10, 2017 meeting minutes, Jim seconded and they were unanimously approved.

3. **Updates & Old Business:**

a. **Correspondence:** none.

b. **Green Use Applications-** Dave presented whatever new applications have been made since our last meeting. Note was made that bookings are being made for next year already, e.g., Branford Festival.

c. **Nardella's Turf Care-** discussion continued regarding the role Nardella's plays in the care and upkeep of various sections of the Green. Question of whether a written contract exists between Nardella's and the Town. Suggestion made to invite Mr. Nardella as a guest at our February 2018 meeting.

d. **PR/Social Media-** Discussion of having periodic articles placed in the local paper, keeping an active Facebook page, and other methods of raising public awareness.

4. **New Business:**

a. **Tree Location Sub-Committee Report-** the Sub-Committee spent considerable time since our last meeting reviewing likely locations for planting new trees. Jane presented their report in which they recommended the following:

- *Replace the sugar maple* that was recently removed along Montowese Street in front of Trinity Church. Replacement species choices include a male Ginkgo or a sweet gum;
- *Replace the cherry tree* located at A29 on the GIS map with another Yoshino cherry; this will continue the current look of having a row of cherries;
- *Plant a row of new trees:* one tree along Blackstone Avenue toward South Main Street (*question of whether the Town will replace and upgrade the curbing in this spot to deter parking of motor vehicles*) and 3 trees facing South Main Street from the corner of Blackstone Avenue. Possibilities include red maple, American beech, plum and dogwood.

Discussion ensued regarding the process of choosing tree types and timing of planting. The hope is to have them all planted by mid-Spring 2018

- b. **Cameron Pierce of “Care of Trees”- Cameron** was a Committee guest and spoke on a number of topics. He remarked on the Location Sub-Committee’s report and discussed possible choices of trees etc. He will take our recommendations in to account and present us with a list of likely candidate trees from which to choose.
 - c. **Parking on the Green- Cameron** presented a written opinion regarding this topic indicating, *“It is extremely advisable that cars and other vehicles do not drive or park on any sections of the Town Green.”* Reference was made to the Cornell University/Urban Horticulture Institute’s 2015 *“CU-Structural Soil Study”* as the scientific and empirical basis for this opinion. Discussion ensued as to how this opinion can be effectively translated in to official Town policy.
 - d. **Plan of Conservation and Development (“POCD”)-** The Committee was invited by Town Planner **Harry Smith** to provide the POCD Steering Committee with a summary of topics/issues we feel should be considered for inclusion in the conservation-related section of the POCD. The summary should be presented to the Steering Committee at least one week prior to the Steering Committee’s January 10, 2018 meeting. **Dave** asked Committee members to obtain feedback from their constituent groups for further discussion at our December meeting.
 - e. **Garden Club Report: Pat** reported that the Club’s Blackstone Library fundraiser was a success; also that “Scarecrows on the Green” was once again a hit.
5. **Other-** No other topics were discussed.

Dave asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting which was made by **Bonnie**, seconded by **Pat** and unanimously approved. The meeting then adjourned at 5:45PM.

The next Green Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 12th 2017 at 4:30PM at the Branford Fire Department Headquarters.

Respectfully submitted,

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David C. Minicozzi, Chairman and Secretary Pro Tem