

**Guilford  
Town Green Committee  
31 Park Street, Town Hall  
August 16, 2017  
3:30 pm  
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Second Floor**

Present : Chair Jerry Silbert, Fran Swietlicki, Tom Pinchbeck, Vivian Thain,  
Colin MacKenzie, , John Cunningham

Town Officials : Kevin Magee, Town Environmental Planner/Tree Warden  
Rick Maynard, Parks and Recreation Director

Absent : Pat Todd, Tom Pinchbeck

Guests : None

**1. Call to Order**

At 3:34 pm, Chair Jerry Silbert called the regular meeting to order.

**2. Approve Agenda**

*Motion: John Cunningham moved to accept the Agenda as presented, seconded by Vivian Thain.*

*Vote: Carried - Fran Swietlicki, John Cunningham, Vivian Thain, Colin MacKenzie,*

**3. Approval of Minutes July 21, 2017 Meeting**

*Motion: John Cunningham moved to approve minutes of the July 21, 2017 meeting, seconded by Vivian Thain.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously  
Abstention - Tom Pinchbeck (absent June 7)*

**4. Public Forum**

There were no citizens present to comment.

**5. Status Report on Green Maintenance. (Jerry and Rick)**

Chair Jerry Silbert reported that he had contacted landscaper Chuck Sherwood regarding ways to improve grass growth. He recommended a product named "Nature's Magic", a blend of seaweed, kelp, molasses and liquid hummus (humic acid). The cost is approximately \$500 for the first tank of the solution, then \$100 per tank. The Green could use three full tanks to cover its seven acres of 300,000 square feet.

One application would cost approximately \$850. The fall is best time to apply the solution. Chair Silbert would coordinate the application with the Parks and Recreation Dept. He provided details of the recent soil tests done on The Green especially sectors Six (PH 6.1, target of 6.7) and Seven (PH 6.3). Both sectors have above average potassium levels. Parks and Recreation will add calcium to areas in need. Magnesium is high in both sectors. Test results for sectors Eight and Ten were also reviewed. This week the center of The Green will be aerated and other areas will apply lime. In September, Parks and Recreation will seed/spot seed other areas.

It was noted that the towns of Madison, Branford, and Cheshire have no plastic turf on their athletic fields and do not use pesticides.

#### **6. Parks and Recreation Report - Director Rick Maynard**

Dir. Maynard reported that due to summer events including Shoreline Arts Alliance Expo, Shakespeare Theatre staging, and other tents the grass has worn. In addition to maintenance, his crew has worked to remove trash that had overflowed the 35 gallon trash containers. The trash removal company picks up twice a week. Dir. Maynard will contact the company to request that they return to remove excess trash after events.

Taste of the Shoreline will be held Sunday August 20. A Motown music concert will be held August 27. 500 to 800 people are expected to attend. There is usually no trash issue at these annual events.

Town Engineer Jim Portley authorized his Public Works crew to repair the sinking sidewalk near Christ Episcopal Church.

#### **7. Tree Warden Report - Warden Kevin Magee**

Kevin Magee reported that A & L Tree Experts (@\$1,500/day) spent 4 ½ days trimming and removed one decayed tree and one emergency removal. One Ash is in decline (across from Town Hall) and two in the upper triangle are being monitored. The Ash Borer insect is causing significant damage. The cost was \$2,500.

**8. Old Business**      There was no business.

#### **9. New Business**

Chair Silbert reported that Treasurer Catherine Kiernan has resigned due to acquiring a new job. Members expressed appreciation for her service to the committee.

#### **10. Other**

John Cunningham advised that a professional photographer would like to donate to the Town Green Committee, for a fundraiser, a photograph she took of The Green with the buildings surrounding it.

Upon discussion, it was decided that John Cunningham will contact the photographer for more information.

Parks and Recreation Director Maynard advised that on a trip to Lexington, MA he visited the Green which had beautiful, rich grass and an irrigation system. It may also have less public activities than Guilford.

**11. Adjournment**

*Motion: At 4:02 pm John Cunningham moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Vivian Thain.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Judith Anderson Castellano  
Recording Secretary

**\*There will be no September meeting.**