

**Guilford
Town Green Committee
Town Hall
September 21, 2016
3:30 pm
Selectmen's Meeting Room, Second Floor**

Present : Chair Jerry Silbert, Vivian Thain, John Cunningham, Catherine Kiernan,
Colin MacKenzie

Town Officials : Rick Maynard, Director, Parks and Recreation
Kevin Magee, Town Tree Warden/Environmental Planner (arrived 4:15)

Absent : Tom Pinchbeck, Pat Todd, Fran Swietlicki

Guests : Lou Federici, Rotary Club president

1. Call to Order

At 3:35 pm, Chair Jerry Silbert called the regular meeting to order. All members present were eligible to vote. Tree Warden Kevin Magee was detained.

2. Approve Agenda

Upon review,

Motion: Colin MacKenzie moved to add to the Agenda as presented, seconded by Catherine Kiernan.

Vote: Carried - John Cunningham, Catherine Kiernan, Vivian Thain, Colin MacKenzie, Jerry Silbert

3. Approval of Minutes

Upon review,

Motion: John Cunningham moved to approve the September minutes as presented, seconded by Vivian Thain.

Vote: Carried - Vivian Thain, Jerry Silbert, John Cunningham, Catherine Kiernan, Colin MacKenzie.

4. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Catherine Kiernan advised that she would submit a report next month.

5. Public Forum

Lou Federici, Guilford Rotary Club president, presented a proposal to install a bus stop shelter on The Green, at the northwest corner at Whitfield and Broad Streets. He submitted design photos of several types of shelters advising that the Greater New Haven Transit District would maintain the structure.

Discussion was held on the GGC regulations which do not allow permanent structures in addition to finding ways to shelter riders from the weather. Members would like to research options with the transit company for relocating the bus stop, determine number of people using the stop, research removal of potential graffiti and ads, and include the Historic District Commission in discussions. Mr. Federici will obtain additional information.

6. Procedure for collecting funds for damage to the Green due to events on the Green

Parks and Recreation Dir. Rick Maynard reported that in the past those causing damage to The Green have reimbursed his department for the repairs.

7. Update on Green maintenance. (Jerry and Rick)

Chair Silbert reported that he and Parks and Recreation foreman Tony Annicelli had walked The Green, deciding to add bluegrass blend seed to the center section and spot seed throughout the 80,000 square feet as necessary. The seed cost is approximately \$628. Chair Silbert had researched the appropriate nutrient blend for the grass and obtained purchase information.

Discussion reviewed use of the best fescue grasses.

8. Update on status of bus shelter (Tom).

Tom Pinchbeck was unable to be present. Discussion regarding a bus shelter proposal was held under "Public Forum".

9. Parks and Recreation Report - Director Rick Maynard: Status of Sector 13

Chair Silbert reported that the very dry summer weather, shaded areas and the high foot traffic from the annual Shoreline Arts Alliance handcraft exposition prevented survival of the previous seeding applications in Sector 13.

Discussion focused on using fertilizers, continual problems with growing grass in shaded overused areas, use of over seeding, liquid aeration, purchasing grass pallets without pesticides, and sharing seed purchases and storage with Parks and Recreation.

Motion: John Cunningham moved to authorize Chair Silbert to spend up to \$1,800 to restore the center grasses of The Green, seconded by Catherine Kiernan.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Dir. Maynard reported :

- Parks and Recreation crew will seed by mid-October.
- The crew schedule does not leave much time for watering.
- The water pit may be used for the center of The Green.

Discussion reviewed options for watering and hose storage. Dir. Maynard will research the use of a temporary locked storage container.

10. Tree Warden Report - Warden Kevin Magee

Thinning trees in Sector 13 : allow more sunlight & to mulch exposed roots of the trees:

Tree Warden Kevin Magee reported that trees had been pruned in June. One dying tree near a sidewalk is being monitored off Whitfield Street.

Upon discussion, it was decided that Chair Silbert, John Cunningham, and Warden Magee will review thinning trees in Sector 13.

11. Old Business There was no further business.

12. New Business

Possible correction to Application for Use of the Guilford Green to Allowing nonprofit organizations based outside of Guilford to use the Green i.e. "Closer to Free" fundraiser for Smilow Cancer Center.

Discussion reviewed GGC regulations on use of The Green. The "Closer to Free" foot race would only use as a water stop. This event is a fundraiser and associated with Guilford organizations and the Yale Clinic located off Exit 59 at Goose Lane.

There was no decision to revise the application to use The Green.

Chair Jerry Silbert advised that he will contact Chuck Sherwood regarding the use of fertilizer.

Adjournment

Motion: At 4:25 pm, Vivian Thain moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by John Cunningham.

Vote: Carried - Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Anderson Castellano
Recording Secretary

***The next regular meeting will be October 19, 2016 at 3:30 pm.**