

Chester Main Street Project Committee

September 10, 2019

Page 1 of 2

1. Call to Order

The Chester Main Street Project Committee held its regular meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2019, at the Chester Town Hall, 203 Middlesex Avenue, Chester, Connecticut. Acting Chairman Chuck Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

2. Seating of Members

Members present included Chuck Mueller, John Schroeder, Leslie Strauss, Charlene Janecek and Jeremy Ziemann. Others present were Scot Mills, Lisa Wahle, Sandy Prisloe, Margo Burns and Bill DeJonge.

3. Discussion with Conservation Commission members about plantings and requirements of the State to use indigenous species and how they apply to the Village

Sandy Prisloe indicated a member of the Conservation Commission, Rick Holloway, had noted there was a presentation of the landscaping plan for the Main Street Project. It was noted the Committee might want to review the landscaping plan as there weren't too many native plants. Chairman Joplin had suggested Lisa Wahle follow up with Brian Kent who is the landscape architect. There are constraints for these plants, some of which are salt, height, etc.

Lisa Wahle noted the one plant of most concern was the Calgary Pear. She noted together with Grant Russell Wallace, an avid gardener and very knowledgeable, they came up with a list of plants. She asked the Committee to at least take a look at the list to see if more native plants could be incorporated. She also noted the Town is working toward getting its Sustainable Certification from the State and one requirement is native plants.

Lisa Wahle explained the importance of native plants. They may be fine for awhile, but they start to pop up everywhere and invade open spaces. She indicated Brian Kent will have some comments regarding this. This should in no way derail the project. Trees can be changed at any time.

Charlene Janecek noted the Sustainable CT list for certification covers things like natural resources to energy efficient. There are 16 or 17 different items that make up sustainable.

Leslie Strauss noted the shrubs in the area on top of the wall along Spring Street are still up for discussion.

Sandy Prisloe reiterated they are not landscaping architects, but just raising this issue and wanted to give the list to Brian Kent for consideration.

Margo Burns noted Sustainable CT is a great educational opportunity for the town's residents. There is a person at UCONN that works with towns.

Chester Main Street Project Committee

September 10, 2019

Page 2 of 2

Tree Warden Scot Mills noted Brian Kent has always come to him with the plant list, but he had not seen this one yet. Mr. Mills noted all this has to be approved by him prior to any plan being put in place. Scot will talk to Brian and make sure he is in the loop.

4. Other Business, if any – none.

5. Bills for Payment – none.

6. Approval of Minutes – August 27, 2019

Motion by Janecek, second by Strauss, to approve August 27, 2019 Minutes as amended by John Schroeder as follows –

Change first sentence under 3. And add new paragraph.

- 3. Review current set of drawings and send comments to Jacobson's and Kent & Frost office.
- John Schroeder provided an electronic copy of the drawings which were projected on the big screen. Schroeder notated the drawings in red to ask questions or make comments about specific areas of the project design. He reviewed each of these redlines and the rest of the Committee provided questions and comments as well.
- Change first sentence of 3rd paragraph as follows – “Some additional items from John Schroeder reviewed were the following-...”

Approved with Ziemann abstaining.

7. Audience of Citizens – nothing further from the audience.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Judith R. Brown, Recording Secretary