

## SHARON GREEN COMMITTEE MEETING

### Minutes of Meeting

Monday, May 8, 2023 @ 4:00 PM

### Sharon Town Hall

*Draft Until Approved at Next Meeting*

**Present:** Betsy Hall, Linda Amerighi, Thomas Casey, Stephen Wasley, Marlene Woodman

**Guest:** Scott Flint, Green Keeper

#### 1. Call To Order

Betsy Hall called the meeting to order at 4:00 P.M.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

Betsy Hall noted that she would like to add: *Types of Grass* to the Green Agenda.

On a motion made and seconded, the Revised Agenda was approved.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes of April 10, 2023

The Minutes of April 10, 2023 stand as submitted.

#### 4. Old Business

##### a. Curbing

##### I. Granite Delay

Linda Amerighi reported that First Selectman Brent Colley informed her that the granite is no longer delayed and will be arriving on May 12, 2023.

Betsy Hall will speak with Brent Colley about the new date for arrival of the granite.

##### II. Crosswalk Catch Basin

Betsy Hall informed the Committee that the State Department of Transportation (DOT) is still unsure whether or not a catch basin across Main Street needs to be installed. Betsy Hall noted that she spoke with Ron Raymond (RAndR) and he will be able to cut the granite to the State DOT specifications if required.

##### III. Eric Golden Letter

Marlene Woodman informed the Committee that she has not heard from Eric Golden about submitting a written resignation letter.

The Committee agreed that it is highly unlikely that Eric Golden will submit a written letter of resignation. Therefore, given that Eric Golden gave Betsy Hall verbal notification, Marlene Woodman, as Secretary, will send a letter to Linda Amerighi, Town Clerk, informing her of such. Linda Amerighi needs a notification for the Town Book.

- IV. Letter re: Sewer & Water to Board of Selectmen  
Betsy Hall recited the April 2023 letter (previously circulated to Green Members) that she sent to the Board of Selectmen regarding the importance of Sharon Sewer and Water Commission notifying the Selectmen about projects being done on the Green and the standards that should be met by same.

IV Type of Grass Seed, Type Tall Fescue

Betsy Hall reported that Second Selectman Casey Flanagan Emailed the Green Committee with recommendations regarding the types of grass seed that we might consider using.

The Committee discussed Casey's recommendations, noting that we are appreciative of his input. Stephen Wasley reported that RAndR outsources seeding and that those companies usually put down contractors' seed. Stephen Wasley recommended that upon completion of the granite project, RAndR procure the top soil from Laurel Brook Natural Resources in East Canaan. Additionally, that we wait to reseed the Green until fall when all work is completed and, hopefully, the Sewer and Water will have its projects completed.

The Committee discussed the bare patches on Upper Main Street. Scott Flint indicated that he is unsure of the cause. Marlene Woodman communicated that she knows of several families in Salisbury who are experiencing the same issue with their lawns. The families contacted a Salisbury contractor who informed them that it is grubs. Further, the contractor uses organic products when re-seeding, etc. Marlene Woodman will get the name and telephone number of the company. Tom Casey agreed to meet with the contractor (if Betsy Hall is unavailable) to learn what steps need to be taken to remediate the problem and to ask them which types of grass seed should be used.

V. Budget

Betsy Hall reported that the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance recommended that the additional \$30,000 requested for the FY'24 Green Budget come from LoCip funds; therefore the funding will need to be approved at a Town Meeting. The Committee agreed that this is the appropriate funding source and should not be controversial going to Town Meeting.

**5. New Business**

a. New Equipment Needed

Scott Flint requested purchasing a battery weed trimmer (\$499), a battery powered chain saw (\$429), and a spare battery (\$239) – totaling \$1167.

The Committee reviewed the FY '23 remaining allotment for new equipment and repair to equipment and believe that sufficient funds remain to procure these items. Betsy Hall will speak with Tina Pitcher to confirm that the amount remaining in the FY'23 Green Budget will cover the costs.

On a motion made and seconded, the Green Committee voted to approve the purchase of a battery weed trimmer, a battery powered chain saw, and a spare battery.

b. Gear Box for Broom Brush

Betsy Hall reported that she spoke with Town Road Foreman Jamie Reid who confirmed that the old tractor is not worth fixing and that it may not even be worth going to auction. Additionally, the broom brush needs a gear box at a cost of \$1300. The broom bush can be used this year, but we will need to purchase a new one next year.

On a motion made and seconded, the Green Committee approved the purchase of a gear box for the broom brush.

c. Benches

Scott Flint reported the benches are all out on the Green.

d. Craft Fair in August

The Committee discussed the Craft Fair to be held on August 5, 2023. The Sharon Parks and Recreation wants to use the Green and although the granite should be installed, the seeding could be disturbed if people walk on it. The Committee decided that it is important for the Parks and Recreation to have the Craft Fair in a visible location – that being the Green. Therefore, the Green Committee will recommend to the Board of Selectmen that this application be approved, with provisions that Matt Mette have conversations with Betsy Hall about stipulations and control points on the Green. It was further recommended that Matt Mette have the vendors' tents be back-to-back and certain areas be corded off.

On a motion made and seconded, the Green Committee voted in favor of holding the Craft Fair on the Green with stipulations.

## 6. Other Business

Tom Casey brought up about the non-profit and for-profit signs for events, etc. that are being placed in various areas around the Green. The Committee discussed this issue knowing that it is hard to mow around the signs and that some signs are up for extended amounts of time. Additionally, given that this is in the Historic District, organizers should be checking with the Land Use office.

Stephen Wasley reported that the State DOT has placed stakes up and around various roads (Route 7, Route 41, etc.). He believes that the state is considering cutting back dangerous curved areas where a driver's vision could be impaired. Some of the stakes around an area that could impact the Green. Betsy Hall will speak with her local contact at DOT, Rod Fernandez, to get information.

## Adjourn

Having no further business, on a motion made and seconded, the Sharon Green Committee moved to adjourn at 4:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Woodman