



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

## Beautification Committee

### Regular Meeting Agenda

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340

Town Manager: 860-441-6630

Town Clerk: 860-441-6640

*Chair Rachael Franco, Nancy Codeanne, Councilor Lian Obrey, Anne Orkney, Bruce McDermott*

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**Monday, March 18, 2019**

**5:30 PM**

**Groton Library**

Meeting Location:

52 Newtown Road, Groton

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1. ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - 2.a. February 4, 2019
  - 2.b. February 20, 2019
  - 2.c. March 4, 2019
3. COMMUNICATIONS
4. COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS
  - 4.a. APPOINTMENTS
5. FUNDRAISING
6. NEW BUSINESS
  - 6.a. April 27, 2019 – Earth Day Clean-up
7. PROJECT BREAKOUT SESSIONS
  - 7.a. BREAKOUT REVIEW
8. ADJOURNMENT



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### Regular Meeting Minutes

45 Fort Hill Road  
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Town Manager: 860-441-6630

Town Clerk: 860-441-6640

*Chair Rachael Franco, Councilor Lian Obrey, Bruce McDermott, Joy Supples*

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**Monday, February 4, 2019**

**5:30 PM**

**Groton Senior Center**

Meeting Location:

102 Newtown Road, Groton

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1. ROLL CALL – Lian Obrey, Rachael Franco

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion: Obrey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Franco – 2/0/0

3. COMMUNICATIONS – Reviewed previous topics members were going to seek answers to:

- Rachael – Reviewed Survey capabilities from Parks and Rec (Survey Monkey). They will help us when we are ready to set up a survey. Also donation via Parks and Rec (see fundraising).
- Lian – Spoke with Karen at Bridge market, she is interested in mural on side of building, need to seek approval from owner. Spoke with Jon from the Tech School, they are willing to assist with agricultural needs.
- Cierra – checked into block engraving cost/type
- Roscoe – has not gained full info regarding Rt. 117 & Rt. 1 intersection.
- Joan – Sprigs and Twigs was unable to assist us

4. COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS – Awaiting Obrey

4.a. APPOINTMENTS – nothing to report

5. FUNDRAISING –

- Reviewed capability to accept Credit Cards and donations via Parks & Rec website – will need to write up a small notice regarding what donations will be used for.
- Lian will check with Fairview and gather further information to hold a meet and greet fundraiser at their establishment.

6. NEW BUSINESS

- Welcomed Paul from the Mystic Garden Club, and Bill Turner who offered to assist us with a selection list for the Groton signature plant. We described our parameters for the plant, and had a full discussion on goals. Mr. Turner said he will come back to our meeting with a presentation of ideas.
- Next meeting will not be on Monday, Feb. 18, it will be on Wed. Feb 20<sup>th</sup> at the Library, 5:30, Rm 4
- Catherine Young from the EDC said they are very interested in our Committee and she will report back to them.
- Lian is working on a Town Wide clean up day, hopefully on the weekend near Earth Day. Joan Smith stated GOSA will also conduct clean up days around that time and will work to coordinate days. Lian also spoke with Susan Austin and would like to get kids in the schools involved with cleanup, even if it is on the School premises.
- Discussed Beach Clean up article and garbage disposal fish bin - sent in by Beth

## All It Took To Clean Up This Beach Was A Fish Sculpture Named Goby

- POSTED ON JANUARY 9, 2019
- BY KEITH BRADFORD



As some rumors swirl around the internet that there will be more plastic than fish by 2050, there are also some great stories about local recycling, like this one about Goby The Fish.

This local beach decided to do something simple, instead of just placing a ton of boring old garbage cans around the beach, they made a giant see through fish out of some barbed wire and mesh, and added a sign to it that said “Goby loves plastic, please feed him”.

The key to the success was that kids had no pleasure in recycling plastics into those old crusty blue bins, but when it turned into a game where they had to “feed” Goby it just took off.

Goby to this day is constantly being fed, and most of the times he actually gets more than he he needs for a days meal. He’s usually taken away by the city overnight to empty all his plastic that he’s eaten, and then brought back the next morning with an empty stomach so people can continue to feed him again and again.

My question is, why is there not a Goby on every single beach in this country!?

- Rachael stated a resident had contacting Congressman Joe Courtney, and their office reached out to me to discuss grants that may be useful to our group. I will share more in the coming months as I work through them to see if they are advantageous to us.
- A member shared a story about Aldi's in Groton and her discussion with the Manager, as there are no cigarette butt receptacles located outside the store. Manager stated the store had forgotten to buy them.
- Dawn Sloan discussed a vision statement she was working on, and will distribute to the group via email. The group thought it was a great start.
- Lian stated she had other Beautification Committee by-laws that she will distribute as a starting point to help our group become more organized with goals, rules, and organization.

7. PROJECT BREAKOUT SESSIONS – Did not breakout during this meeting.

7.a. BREAKOUT REVIEW - N/A

8. ADJOURNMENT - 6:30 pm - Motion: Obrey, 2<sup>nd</sup> Franco – 2/0/0

