

Greens Farms Association Board Meeting Minutes July 9, 2025

Board Members Attending: Art Schoeller, Birthe Shwisha, Liz-Ann Koos, MaryAnn Meyer, Gordon Mack, Judy Swann & RTM-5 Reps Claudia Shaum, Dick Lowenstein and Peter Gold

CTDOT Site

The group discussed concerns about landscaping and vegetation after Connecticut completes their department transportation site, with Dick noting that visibility issues are lessened in summer. There was discussion that there is no light at the entrance to the Town Public Works site on the Connector so they debated whether a traffic light should be installed at the Connector Road entrance to the CTDOT site, with Peter pointing out there's no traffic light at the current Post Road entrance to the CTDOT site and questioning if one would even be needed. The discussion concluded with Judy mentioning that the land elevation had been raised during construction, though the long-term plans remain unclear. (Art commented that unfortunately there is no one at CTDOT to engage in discussion about our concerns.)

GFA Website Work

Art reported on the website upgrade, which is being handled by Claudia Shaum's daughter Holly (for pay by GFA) with the decision to keep using WordPress despite newer platforms being available.

Montessori School

The group discussed the Montessori school proposal, with Claudia and Art reporting that neighbors, especially those on Colonial Road, were strongly opposed due to traffic concerns, particularly regarding the impact on Starbucks. Art explained that the school's traffic plan, which included a 90-second drop-off for older students and 2-minute drop-off for infants/toddlers, would likely be insufficient given the expected backups from Starbucks traffic. The P & Z Commission appeared skeptical of the proposal, with some commissioners expressing doubt about the school's claims, and Art noted that the hearing was now closed, with any further discussion likely to occur in a work session where the commission would decide on the application. (Peter lamented that it is unfortunately too late to try to involve the Starbucks owner in opposing it).

Cribari Bridge

It was agreed that the GFA would remain vigilant for opportunities to voice concerns about the Cribari bridge project.

GFA Administrative Matters:

New Treasurer-Gordon introduced himself as the new treasurer, mentioning his work at Google Cloud and his family situation. Berta agreed to connect with Gordon to hand over Treasurer responsibilities.

Art suggested that MaryAnn participate in the discussion of the handover of treasurer duties for which he said he would send an email to her and Gordon.

New (temporary) Secretary-Because Kay Palmer had resigned as Secretary and from the GFA Board, Art discussed welcoming Liz-Ann as the temporary secretary for up to one year and agreed to continue searching for a permanent candidate. Art promised to send Liz-Ann an AI generated meeting summary plus an agenda chart. Art also mentioned testing an AI companion to assist with meeting documentation.

NEXT GFA BOARD MEETING: Wednesday August 6, 2025 @ 7PM on ZOOM