

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Casale called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Casale led the Pledge of Allegiance

A moment of silence was observed for those who serve and have served in the United States military

ROLL CALL

Present:

Councilmembers Councilmember Lee Kyriacou, At Large (LK); George Mansfield, At Large (GM); Terry Nelson, Ward One (TN); John Rembert, Ward Two (JR); Jodi McCredo, Ward Three (JM); Amber Grant, Ward Four (AG) and Mayor Randy Casale (RC) **Total: 7, quorum present**

Also Present:

City Administrator Anthony Ruggiero (AR); City Attorney Nick Ward-Willis (NWW) and Dutchess County Legislator Nick Page (NP)

1ST OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers:

- Air Nonken-Rhodes submitted a letter on behalf of the Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC) and spoke about need for a Climate-smart Community Coordinator.
- Dennis Pavelock spoke about Beacon Historical Society's Ghost Tours and Blackburn Avenue sidewalk.
- Theresa Kraft spoke about a Historic Preservation Commission and the RFP for the Beacon Women's Correctional Facility

PUBLIC HEARING

- **A public hearing to receive public comment on a proposed Local Law to amend Chapter 211 of the Code of the City of Beacon concerning 30-minute parking on West Main Street**

Speakers: none

- Motion made by JM, seconded by JR to **close the public hearing**. The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.

- **A public hearing to receive public comment on a proposed resolution authorizing the submission of the fiscal year 2019 Dutchess County Community Development Block Grant Program application for Green Street Park improvements**

Speakers:

- § Tessa Dean read and submitted a letter recommending the Park retain its current character
- § Dennis Pavelock shared comments and concerns about the Green Street Park
- § Jeff Burke spoke about One Nature's proposal not fitting the current uses
- Motion made by TN, seconded by GM to **close the public hearing**. The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.

- **A public hearing to receive public comment on a proposed resolution authorizing the submission of the fiscal year 2019 Dutchess County Community Development Block Grant Program application for Wilkes Street Sewer Slip Lining**

Speakers: none

- Motion made by JR, seconded by JM to **close the public hearing**. The motion was carried unanimously by voice vote.

COUNCIL REPORTS

- AG- read comments from a constituent on Green Street Park. Thanked all who shared opinions.
- JR – thanked those who shared comments.
- LK – would like to finish the rezoning – use in the individual zones and finish the Historic Properties list.
- GM – shared reminder about the Tenant and Landlord Rights Forum.

- JM – echoed earlier comments about the Beacon Correctional RFP, requested a working group be formed to improve sidewalks and sidewalk safety for kids walking to school and reminded people about the Pumpkin Festival.
- TN – met with the new management of Tompkins Terrace and found them to be more proactive; has received several emails about Airbnbs that are still operating and asked about the course of action to address this.
 - AR stated a letter or email needs to be sent to the Building Dept.
- NP – County to reopen conversation on weekend Ferry service; urged City action on the recycling crisis – put forward a bill to put a surcharge on paper and plastic bags; costs to remove plastic bags from machinery locally costs over \$100,000, send comments to npage@dutchess.ny.gov
- RC – announced forum on tenants' rights being held by City on 10/17 at 7pm. Spoke about what to do for heat issues in rentals; thanked Southern Dutchess Cruisers for the Car Show, thanked public works and police departments for their help during the event
- AR – RFP for Beacon Correctional Facility is not the City's but the State's, interested parties must register on Empire State Development's website, all information is available on the City's website www.cityofbeacon.org

LOCAL LAWS AND RESOLUTIONS

1. **A resolution authorizing the Submission of the Fiscal Year 2019 Dutchess County Community Development Block Grant Program application for Green Street Park Improvements**
 - A motion was made by AG, seconded by JM to adopt. The motion was carried unanimously by roll call vote.
2. **A resolution authorizing the submission of the fiscal year 2019 Dutchess County Community Development Block Grant program application for Wilkes Street Sewer Slip Lining**
 - A motion was made by TN, seconded by JR to adopt. The motion was carried unanimously by roll call vote.
3. **A resolution to adopt a Local Law to amend Chapter 223, Article IVE, Section 41.21 of the Code of the City of Beacon regarding the Linkage District Regulations for Uses that require a Special Permit**
 - A motion was made by JR, seconded by GM to adopt. The motion was carried unanimously by roll call vote.
4. **A resolution to adopt a Local Law to amend Chapter 223, Section 61.3 of the Code of the City of Beacon concerning Public Notice Signs**
 - A motion was made by TN, seconded by AG to adopt. The motion was carried unanimously by roll call vote.
5. **A resolution granting an Amended Special Use Permit to Beacon Lofts and Storage, LLC at 39 Front Street**
 - A motion was made by GM, seconded by JR to adopt. The motion was carried unanimously by roll call vote.
6. **A resolution authorizing entering into a Right-of-Way Easement Agreement with Central Hudson Gas & Electric and Verizon New York, Inc. for City property located on Cross Street**
 - A motion was made by JR, seconded by GM to adopt. The motion was carried unanimously by roll call vote.
7. **A resolution authorizing a Stormwater Management Facility Inspection and Maintenance Easement Agreement regarding 123 Rombout Avenue**
 - A motion was made by TN, seconded by AG to adopt. The motion was carried unanimously by roll call vote.
8. **A resolution awarding the contract for the Fairview Tank Replacement to Statewide Aquastore, Inc**
 - A motion was made by JR, seconded by GM to adopt. The motion was carried unanimously by roll call vote.
9. **A resolution to award the contract for the Removal and Disposal of Sludge from a Digester at the City of Beacon Wastewater Treatment Facility to Spectraserv**
 - A motion was made by JR, seconded by TN to adopt. The motion was carried unanimously by roll call vote.

10. Resolution to Certify Base Percentages and Proportions for the 2018 Assessment Roll Pursuant to Article 19 of the Real Property Tax Law

- ▷ A **motion was made** by GM, seconded by AG **to adopt**. The **motion was carried** unanimously by roll call vote.

11. Resolution re: Certiorari Settlement - Mtr. of Continental Healthcare VIII Limited Partnership v. Board of Assessors of the City of Beacon, et al. (Sup. Ct. Dutchess Co. Index Nos. 51760/17 and 52144/18) - Settlement of 2017 and 2018 Tax Certiorari Proceedings

- ▷ A **motion was made** by GM, seconded by JM **to adopt**. The **motion was carried** unanimously by roll call vote.

12. A resolution to amend and replace the City's existing policy regarding sexual harassment

- ▷ A **motion was made** by JM, seconded by JR **to adopt**. The **motion was carried** unanimously by roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- ▷ A **motion was made** by AG, seconded by JM **to approve** the minutes from October 1, 2018. The **motion was carried** unanimously by voice vote.

2ND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers - none

Next Council Meeting is Monday November 5, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

Next Council Workshop is October 29, 2018 at 7:00 PM.

A video recording of this meeting in its entirety can be found here - <http://www.cityofbeacon.org/Government/videos.htm>

Submitted by Lisa Edelson

Google Maps 21 W Main St



Image capture: Sep 2017 © 2018 Google

Beacon, New York

Google, Inc.

Street View - Sep 2017



From: [Amber J. Grant](#)
To: [Beacon City Council](#); [Mark Price](#)
Subject: Fwd: Green Street Park
Date: Monday, October 15, 2018 12:59:22 PM

FYI

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Phoebe Zinman Winters" <writetomoi@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 15, 2018 at 11:37 AM -0400
Subject: Green Street Park
To: "Amber J. Grant" <agrant@cityofbeacon.org>

Hi All,

I just wanted to let you all know that myself and all of my neighbors that I have spoken to would like to voice our very enthusiastic support of the One Nature proposal to transform Green St Park into what the community has been asking for for years! Their plan is wonderful and a continuation of some efforts to rally the city behind better investment into one of its most beautiful public spaces.

A couple years back I threw a fundraiser for Green Street Park and we raised money to buy trees to plant and then cleaned up and organized the storage closet and bathrooms and threw a neighborhood party to celebrate. Below is a copy of the email that I sent after that party, showing what the community was hoping to have at that time. It is very closely aligned with what the proposal from One Nature. Please do make this decision to create a park that we could all be so proud of!

Thank you,
Phoebe

Hi all,

I wanted to write and tell you about a really successful neighborhood park party we had a couple months back to get all the neighbors of Green Street Park out enjoying the park, meeting each other and celebrating the painted shed/bathrooms. We also wanted to see what people would like to see happen in Green Street Park since it's such a gem in Beacon in terms of open space, beautiful

views, great neighbors and lots of potential. Last year we raised nearly \$700 having a benefit dance party at Quinn's and used that money to buy and plant two trees and purchase some of these party supplies and things for the shed. Nearly 100 people showed up to play on the playground, shoot some hoops, make giant bubbles, bring potluck dishes and enjoy some music set up and played by neighbors. It was awesome! I'm including a couple of photos, as well as the complete wish list of what people would like to see happen at the park. I left in some of the more fantastical ones (roller coaster!) but there are a number of ideas that are very within reach: shade, benches, picnic area, safer parking, nature play and water feature/splash pad.

One wish has already been fulfilled as Wee Play has purchased sprinklers and set up a volunteer rotation to create some summer morning sprinkler days each week! They continue to create amazing resources for families in our city. I also can't thank Mark Price enough for his support, both last year with the trees and this year with the party and his continued advocacy for Green Street Park. Also, Reuben from the Highway Dept came out to the party (on a Sunday) and then his crew was there before 8am the next morning to put down new mulch on the playground area.

However, I want to use this opportunity to remind Beacon's leaders that, as they allocate our city's budget, our parks are one of our most valuable assets in our city, as resources for the community and public places for diverse groups of people to gather, and must be supported by our city. This cannot be only a volunteer-led effort. Green Street Park is not scheduled for any new playground equipment (Capital Improvement expenditures in 2018 will address the retaining wall), nor can we pay for someone to water additional trees we'd like to purchase and plant. The current playground equipment we have needs to be updated, it won't last more than another couple years, or supplemented by natural playground equipment as is being planned in Memorial Park. And trees take a long time to grow - if we push it off every year because no one can water new trees that are farther from the water at the shed, we still won't have shade in the park in a decade.

Please consider making an investment in the future of Green Street Park more immediately. As you can see, there are a lot of neighbors of the park who appreciate and use this space.

Thank you for your consideration,
Phoebe Zinman Winters
on behalf of [Friends of Green Street Park](#)

WISH LIST FROM PARK PARTY:

- more trees
- pick up sports games

- arts & crafts activities for kids
- bike/scooter track all around edge of park
- water feature/splash pad
- picnic area
- hang out place
- more benches
- a roller coaster
- parking
- foam pit
- water feature with lochs – not for running through but like Grasshopper Grove)
- nature play
- trees
- adult pick up basket ball games
- kiddie day camp
- shade – sun umbrellas?
- ninja course
- parking
- sprinkler
- water fountain
- smores
- obstacle course
- badminton net
- better climbing structure

- more monkey bars
- safer route to the big slides
- small stage for summer concerts
- badminton net
- willow tree maze
- benches facing west
- water feature
- shade
- more benches





From: [Amber J. Grant](#)
To: [Lisa Edelson](#)
Cc: [Randy J. Casale](#); [Anthony Ruggiero](#); [Mark Price](#)
Subject: Public comment to include for Green St
Date: Monday, October 15, 2018 7:31:38 PM

Lisa, please add the following to the minutes from tonight's meeting, i read an excerpt in my report for tonight.

Matthew and Romina Robinson
25 1st street Beacon NY

Green Street Park, I believe was a donated piece of land given to the town in the 1960s. According to the Aerial Access maps on Dutchess Parcel Access, there was no evidence of formal playground equipment before the mid century. I have tried to research the park's history, and have gathered that the playground got some replacement equipment in the late 90s or very early 2000s. We are still not sure what that ball hoop is, but many of us enjoy the park very much. The town has cut down most of the large trees over time for various reasons and the park currently has no shade during the summer days. When my family takes an outing to the park from our home just one block away, we have to pass the park, go uphill around the corner, and navigate the stroller underneath the chain that spans the access to the park.

As our city and our neighborhood continues to change and grow, so does the demand for playground parks in the area. Green Street Park is under utilized mainly because it is unbearable in the summer heat with no shade trees. With some modifications, it could really serve the community as a meeting place. I think it is a beautiful location that could house beautiful creative play and an atmosphere that embraces Beacon's unique geography. The proposal that Mark and One Nature have been working on fills a void in Beacon. It seems like a place I would spend afternoons in the summer. One pool is not enough for water features and in the future the grants can be used to do this in other parks, but we should put the whole grant toward something really special. No bandaids.

If you build something that is really for the people of Beacon, something thoughtful, you will see them there often enjoying the space for many years. That is a success.

Amber Grant
City Council, Ward 4

Randy J. Casale

From: stanislaw yankowski <syankowski@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 11:36 AM
To: Nicholas M. Ward-Willis; Randy J. Casale; John E. Rembert
Subject: Verizon Resolution

Hi Nick , Mr. Mayor , and John ,

I see that on today's Council agenda there is a resolution granting a right-of-way easement to Central Hudson and Verizon for "any" use relating to electric and "communication industry" . Will this allow the installment of a Small Cell Wireless Facility ("any use ") ? In my non-lawyer reading of this resolution , I can see a sub-lease to Verizon Wireless to do so . Is this Cross Street location in the Historic District and thus a small cell would not be allowed per Law ?

What is the status of Verizon Wireless' application for a Small Cell Facility on Cross Street and near the train station ? If apps are still active , has a plan been submitted detailing future locations anticipated for the for the next year ? If so submitted , when does the one year period start ?

I hope you get a chance to read this email before this evening's meeting and take into consideration the concerns that I have for this resolution .

Stosh Yankowski

Randy J. Casale

From: Amber J. Grant
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 12:58 PM
To: Anthony Ruggiero; Mark Price
Cc: Randy J. Casale
Subject: Fwd: Green St Park

FYI

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From: "**Kate Macaluso**" <akatemac@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Oct 15, 2018 at 10:36 AM -0400

Subject: Green St Park

To: "Amber J. Grant" <agrant@cityofbeacon.org>, "Jodi McCredo" <jmccredo@cityofbeacon.org>, "George M. Mansfield" <gmansfield@cityofbeacon.org>, "Lee Kyriacou" <lkylriacou@cityofbeacon.org>, "John E. Rembert" <jrembert@cityofbeacon.org>, "Terry Nelson" <tnelson@cityofbeacon.org>, "Randy J. Casale" <mayor@cityofbeacon.org>

Hello,

I am so excited to see funding dedicated to fixing up Green St. Park. It's in my neighborhood and I bring my kids to play there often. I would go to Green St even if we didn't live nearby (as we do with the other city parks).

One of the reasons I like Green St is the open space that allows for free play, and the way in which it is "enclosed", partly by the hill on the east side, so that I can easily see the whole space but allow my kids to run freely throughout the park in and out of the different play areas.

As great as it is to see the park getting a face lift, after reviewing the proposal, I am disappointed by the addition of fenced areas. This creates barriers to the free play design that the park is supposed to be enhancing. I don't see why a swing set area suddenly needs to be fenced in, or why we need a separate fenced in areas for little kids when we have a wonderful, huge tot lot at Memorial Park.

As a parent of more than one kid I find it hard to play at Memorial when both kids want to be in different fenced in areas. Again, one of the reasons I love Green St is that is an open space with naturally divided play areas that kids can roam in and out of.

I am also concerned about adding vegetation that will block my view of my kids as they run around the park. I'm all for blueberry bushes and native plants, but head to Long Dock or nature trails for those things. Shade trees on the other hand, would be welcome.

I am happy to see the other proposed updates including logs and other structures for kids to climb on, ADA parking, updated fencing and stairs to Prospect. It would also be great to have more shade via trees (I know one was planted recently) and /or shade structures.

I would like to see more resident input into the plans as proposed before moving forward.

Respectfully,
Kate Macaluso

Randy J. Casale

From: Amber J. Grant
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 12:59 PM
To: Beacon City Council; Mark Price
Subject: Fwd: Green St. Park proposal

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From: "**Kristen Holt-Browning**" <kristenholtbrowning@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Oct 15, 2018 at 10:44 AM -0400
Subject: Green St. Park proposal
To: "Amber J. Grant" <agrant@cityofbeacon.org>

Dear Ms. Grant,

As a resident of Ward 4 and regular user of Green Street Park, I'm writing to you to express my support--with some reservations--for the proposed revision plan for the park's overall layout and amenities.

As a parent of 2 elementary-school-aged children living in walking distance of the park, we use the park regularly and are very fond of it.

I applaud One Nature for their dedication to improving and enhancing our community, such as with their work at the Wee Woods in Memorial Park. My opinion on the One Nature proposal as it stands now (and as I understand it now,) is that it should be revised to maintain just a bit more of the current character of Green Street Park.

I would favor the following upgrades to the park:

1. Updated playground equipment, specifically, more all-abilities play structures and more structures geared toward very young (under age 5) children.
2. More opportunities for nature play.
3. More seating.
4. More plantings and trees for both shade and beautification.

I urge the City Council to approve a revised plan for Green Street Park that would upgrade and update it while more closely maintaining the primary functions and current character of the park. The current park does need some improvements, and I trust One Nature to carry them out--but I am not sure that all of their suggestions are necessary. But at any rate, I'm very pleased to know that the park will be improved.

Thank you,

Kristen Holt Browning

21 Annan St.

Randy J. Casale

From: Randy J. Casale
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 10:28 AM
To: Anthony Ruggiero; Mark Price; Michael Manzi; Beacon City Council
Subject: FW: Comment on Green Street Park

fyi

From: Tessa Dean [mailto:tessadean@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, October 15, 2018 9:01 AM
To: Randy J. Casale <mayor@cityofbeacon.org>
Subject: Comment on Green Street Park

Dear Mayor Casale,

My name is Tessa Dean. I am writing on behalf of me¹ and my family--my husband John Cumming and our 3 children. We live at 1 Green Street. We love our block and Green Street Park was a major factor in our move from renting on Main Street to buying our house on that street 5 years ago. Some improvements have been made in the time we've lived on the block and it is great to see Green Street Park getting some much-needed attention.

We spend a lot of time at Green Street Park and it really is a neighborhood gathering place. The playground equipment (although it is old,) the pavilion, the pavement for riding bikes and scooters (which I believe was originally a tennis court?) are a draw for my elementary-aged kids and many others. Teens and adults play basketball in nice weather and neighborhood families spend time sledding at Green Street when the snow hits.

In addition to our time spent at the park, we drive past it many times on most days throughout the year and notice what's happening there:

1. The 2 playground structures are used by a wide range of kids, but they are not ideal for babies and young toddlers.
2. The pavement at the corner of Union and Prospect is a popular spot for biking and scootering.
3. The flat field is used by all ages for sports, games, and imaginative play.
4. The ridge of bedrock that protrudes from the area between the basketball court and bathrooms is a favorite spot for mixed ages nature play.

I appreciate the good work that One Nature has done and continues to do with WeeWoods at Memorial Park. I like the aesthetic and the design of that project and others that I see in the area and on their social media. My opinion on the One Nature proposal as it stands now (and as I understand it now,) is that it should be revised to maintain more of the current character of Green Street Park.

1. We do need updated playground equipment. All-abilities play structures like those you see at Julie's Jungle in East Fishkill would be a valuable upgrade and would increase usage.
2. We need more nature play.
3. We still need the flat field for playing.
4. We still need a good spot for biking and scootering. I like the idea of removing the tall chain link fence and I like the idea of grading the corner at Union and Prospect. But I'm concerned about the impact that would have on the area currently used by kids for those activities.

I urge the City Council to approve a revised plan for Green Street Park that would upgrade and update it while more closely maintaining the primary functions and current character of the park.

I think that Green Street Park should be upgraded with an all-abilities play structure, updated with more opportunities for nature play, seating, and beautified with more trees and plantings.

Thank you,

Tessa Dean

October 2018

Dear Beacon City Council,

As your committee on conservation recommendations, we would like to recommend that you put in a line item in your upcoming budget for a part-time position of a Climate Smart Community Coordinator, which is a required component of the State's program.

The Climate Smart Community program, run by NY State's Department of Environmental Conservation, provides support and assistance for municipalities like Beacon to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate changes at the local level.

As a reminder, the City took the pledge to become a Climate Smart Community in 2009. To the best of our knowledge, the City previously had an employee who served this role, the former City Administrator, who took on the responsibilities of the position. When she resigned her role, no employees took on the role's responsibilities. The State no longer recognizes Beacon as having an active Climate Smart Communities Coordinator.

The City has done many related projects that are eligible to count towards the program, but the relevant paperwork has not yet been submitted. This role would be responsible for:

- Developing a Climate Smart Communities plan and goals for the City;
- Submitting the paperwork for previous projects we have already completed, including the solar field and LED lights;
- Determining which current projects the city is already undertaking that could count towards Climate Smart requirements, and upon their completion provide documentation to the State to prove that Beacon has fulfilled these requirements;
- Prioritizing and spearheading new actions that the City can take to meet additional requirements that count towards this program;
- Identify funding sources for projects and investments, and provide the City's contracted grant writers with supporting materials

Having an employee dedicated to this role's responsibilities would benefit the city in the following ways:

- *Actionable Change:* Cities with Climate Smart Community Coordinators save taxpayer dollars, promote economic growth, improve operations and upgrade City infrastructure
- *Funding:* As a recognized active Climate Smart Community, Beacon will be eligible for government grant funding for projects such as flood protection, drainage improvements, constructing a new firehouse and emergency center, food recycling centers, sidewalks and crosswalks, feasibility studies, and so much more, all of which we are currently having to pass up since we aren't yet eligible.

This role is also important because climate change is impacting Beacon now, and will do so increasingly in the future. The State has established that New York has timely opportunities to

become more resilient and efficient now, and has called upon municipalities to respond through the Climate Smart Communities program.

We recommend hiring for this part-time salaried role immediately, at approximately \$15,000. Making this be a paid position strengthens the role's accountability to the City's needs, and will attract quality candidates to the role. The City's budget commitment for the role would only need to be for the role's first year. Future years for this role can have the funding for this position written into the grants for which we will be able to apply once this position is filled. We can look to Phillipstown and Kingston as examples of successful municipalities who made a similar investment in staffing this position.

We can share examples of job descriptions other municipalities have created for this role. We can share with you examples of projects other local municipalities have achieved through this role. We can facilitate the search process through our networks. We're happy to invite someone from the County or State levels to share further information about the program and answer any questions you may have. And we are here to help facilitate this process in any other way.

We recommend that the City Council consider approving this budget item. Thank you for your enthusiastic consideration of this advancement for Beacon's future.

-the Beacon Conservation Advisory Committee (CAC)

beaconcac@cityofbeacon.org

From: [kitburkesmith](#)
To: [Amber J. Grant](#); [Randy J. Casale](#)
Subject: Support of Green Street Park proposal
Date: Monday, October 15, 2018 11:55:34 AM

Dear Councilmember Grant and Mayor Casale-

I am writing in support of the proposed improvements to Green Street Park. In Beacon, we are lucky to have such wonderful outdoor spaces for the community to enjoy in numerous different ways. I have been thrilled to see improvements like the new playground near the Rec Center and the creation of the Wee Woods in Memorial Park in recent years.

Now it seems it is Green Street Park's turn to see improvements and updates. These parks are a vital part of our city's community and serve as a place for folks of all ages to come together, enjoy the outside, and interact with neighbors. Updating and improving them helps these outdoor jewels of Beacon continue to be one of the best things about living in this fine city. I look forward to watching my kid climb the fire tower play structure in the spring, picking blueberries with her in the summer, having her beat me at Horse on the refurbished basketball courts in the fall, and sledding down the hill together in the winter.

Thanks for doing your part to help maintain and improve our parks!

Yours,
Kit Burke-Smith
Beacon, NY

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-kit burke-smith

kitburkesmith.com
kitburkesmith.etsy.com