

**MINUTES
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 1, 2017
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
ROOM 207**

PRESENT: Bonaminio, Archibald, Vitarelli, Dillman, O'Donnell, Presnick-Lyon and Meyerjack

ABSENT: Cacace and Fischer

STAFF: Gerald L. Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bonaminio called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The roll was called and a quorum was determined.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Archibald to accept the minutes of the October 4, 2017 meeting and seconded by Ms. Dillman with Ms. Presnick-Lyon abstaining. All were in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

BUSINESS

1) Signage – Ricci Construction, 986 South Main Street

Mr. Michael Vittorio of Sign Pro explained the sign that Mr. Ricci is requesting for his property at 986 South Main Street in Cheshire. Mr. Vittorio said that the sign would be an aluminum directory sign which will be 32 sq. ft. in size. Currently, the sign will accommodate Mr. Ricci's business plus two other tenants. A third occupant is currently not known. The sign will be double faced and internally illuminated and the colors will be black, white and other muted colors.

Ms. Archibald asked why the sign is to be on posts and she was told that visual clearance is needed and snow plowing has been taken into consideration. Mr. Vittorio also said that there will be plantings at the base of the sign when weather permits.

Mr. Bonaminio said the sign plan looks good. A motion was made by Ms. Vitarelli and seconded by Ms. Archibald to accept the revised sign plan as presented provided that it meets zoning requirements. All were in favor.

Mr. Sitko then said that there is a move under way to redevelop other properties in the area and that he has contacted Eversource to clean up the substation site at Route 10 and Mansion Road.

2) Signage – South Brooksvale Historic District

The Historic District Commission has approved signs for the center of town and for the South Brooksvale area. Mr. Sitko told the committee that no town money will be used for the project. The monies will come from a grant, a donation from the Cheshire Historical Society and a contribution from the Julia A. Humiston Trust. He went on to explain the meaning of the "vale". Members questioned the back of the sign saying "Leaving the Vale" saying it was unclear. Mr. Sitko said he would bring it to the attention of the HDC members.

3) Site Plan – Cheshire Medical Associates, 266 & 292 South Main Street

Mr. Sitko discussed the new medical building that will be built on Route 10 next to the 7-11 store. He addressed an e-mail that was sent to him yesterday regarding the site plan in which the applicant requests to defer meeting this morning to another meeting later in the month as the plans will be revised. Mr. Sitko asked the members of their preference as to another meeting or only a group of commissioners. Most members agreed to another meeting about the revised plan and suggested that it be held in two weeks. Mr. Sitko said he would notify everyone.

Planters

Ms. Archibald said she was in the process of cleaning out the planters and said the ones on West Main Street had already been done. She then asked Mr. Sitko about the watering for next year. He said that Abilities Without Boundaries would be willing to take on the project again and the fee would be the same. Ms. Archibald said she did additional watering during the summer months when the weather was very hot and dry. She also said she planned on planting more succulents next year. Ms. Archibald also discussed the type of greens that will be used. She and Mr. Bonaminio said that the Frazier Fir that she obtains are not only a good price but hardy.

Street Trees

Mr. Sitko said he is waiting for a plan of West Main Street from public works.

Adopt-a-Spot

People that have participated in the program have been asked to clean their spots.

Awards

The awards program is temporarily on hold.

Town Center and Gateway Parklets

More than 500 daffodils have been planted in the town center and gateway parklets by Mr. Bonaminio, Ms. Archibald, Ms. Cacace and Ms. Fischer with help from the public works department. Ms. Archibald thought that if there was less vegetation and more mulch with some rocks the gateway parklet would look better.

Liaison Report

Mr. O'Donnell said there wasn't much to report but did say that they are getting into winter programs. He also said that a decision for a new director should be coming soon. He noted that some of the overgrown plants at Cheshire Town Park should be removed.

Discussion

Ms. Dillman asked Mr. Sitko the proper way to go about requesting that work be done. Mr. Sitko told her that it should be through him. Ms. Dillman said she would send him a request to have the overgrown Juniper and Poison Ivy removed from Cheshire Park.

Members also noted that the sign at the Yellow House is still broken. They were told that a new sign will be designed. Mr. Sitko said that someone from youth services will contact the high school to see if the design class could have someone design the sign.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. O'Donnell and seconded by Ms. Vitarelli. All were in favor.

The meeting ended at 8:50 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk
Town Beautification Committee