

**MINUTES
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 14, 2018
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
ROOM 207**

PRESENT: Bonaminio, Archibald, Dillman, Fischer and Meyerjack

ABSENT: Cacace, Presnick-Lyon and O'Donnell

STAFF: Gerald L. Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bonaminio called the special meeting of the Town Beautification Committee to order at 8:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was determined.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Meyerjack to accept the minutes of the December 6, 2017 meeting with corrections. The correction being, on page 2 under Planters,

the cost of the Balsam Fir branches was \$51 for 100 lbs. of the 225 lbs. that was needed. The rest of the branches were supplemented by Ms. Archibald. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dillman. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Ms. Archibald to accept the minutes of the February 21, 2018 sign subcommittee meeting and was seconded by Mr. Meyerjack. All were in favor.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

A motion was made by Ms. Dillman to continue with the current slate of officers. The motion was seconded by Mr. Meyerjack. All were in favor. The officers are: William Bonaminio, Chairman; Patricia Archibald, Vice Chairperson; and Jane Presnick-Lyon, Secretary.

COMMUNICATIONS

Members were given copies of highlights of the Freedom of Information Act and the Code of Ordinances for Conflicts of Interest and were asked to review them because they are important.

Members were also asked to review the list of members and meeting dates for 2018.

CHESHIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOME, HEALTH & GARDEN SHOW

Christine Wium, chairperson for the Home Show this year, came before the committee to ask the members how the chamber can help them. She went on to say that the chamber is looking to advertise and obtain feedback through Facebook and social media. She also mentioned that because this year the Home Show is the week before Easter, there would be an Easter egg hunt and eggs at the different booths for the children. In addition, representatives from the police and fire departments will also be there as well as Girl Scouts selling

cookies. There will be something for everyone. Mr. Sitko asked the members if anyone was available to volunteer for the day of the Home Show. Mr. Sitko said he would send an e-mail to all the members to see who was available.

Members were asked about participation in the Home Show this year but felt that because it was only a week or so away it would be difficult, therefore, next year would be a better. A motion was made by Mr. Meyerjack to skip the Home Show this year because of the short time frame to prepare and participate next year. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dillman. All were in favor.

Planters

Ms. Archibald said that she emptied the planters in February but would like some soil to top off some of the planters that are rather low. Mr. Bonaminio said he would help her. She also asked for someone to help realign the planters that had been moved before planting in the spring. Mr. Sitko will ask public works for assistance.

FY 19 Budget

Mr. Sitko asked the committee members to refer to the information that was sent concerning the budget and noted that the budget for the beautification committee was not cut by the town manager.

Adopt-a-Spot

Mr. Sitko said that letters will be sent out this month asking those that participated last year if they wished to continue.

Blighted or Unsafe Premises Ordinance

Mr. Sitko asked the committee to refer to the proposed ordinance in the packet. He said the town council will meet to discuss the ordinance at public hearing. The focus will be on safety and health issues and not such things as tall grass and dead trees. Mr.

Sitko also noted that the fire marshal has been designated as the enforcement officer.

Activities for 2018

Most of the activities for 2018 are the same as for 2017. The Bradford Pear trees will continue to be pruned, recognizing “trees to be appreciated” will remain in effect but not the planting of trees at the schools and the awards program will not be held in 2018. The committee will continue to work with the Public Works Department with additional plantings and maintaining the parklets. They will also continue planting the planters at town hall and on West Main Street and will have Abilities Without Boundaries continue watering the planters. There will be increased activity on the town’s website and work with the chamber to start planning for the 2019 Home Show will begin.

A suggestion was made that maybe the TBC could work with Public Works Department to clean up the parklet on Maple Ave. and Route 10.

Mr. Sitko also asked the committee to give some thought to and discuss current projects and see if there are any others that they might want to add.

Other

The town has received a \$750,000 brownfield remediation grant for the Ball & Socket Arts project.

The medical office building that will be built on South Main Street should be starting construction in April.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn by Ms. Dillman and seconded by Mr. Meyerjack.
All were in favor.

The meeting ended at 9:14 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk
Town Beautification Committee