

**MINUTES
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 6, 2019
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
ROOM 207**

PRESENT: Bonaminio, Archibald, Presnick-Lyon, Meyerjack, Fischer and Colacrai

ABSENT: Dillman and Cacace

STAFF: Gerald L. Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator

GUEST: Town Manager Sean Kimball

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bonaminio called the meeting of the Town Beautification Committee to order at 8:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was determined.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election of officers has been postponed until the March meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Meyerjack to accept the minutes of the December 5, 2018 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Archibald. All were in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS

A letter from Town Manager Sean Kimball was presented at the meeting thanking the committee for their work on the holiday decorations at Cheshire Town Hall and the library. He also thanked them for everything they do to enhance the appearance of our town.

BUSINESS

1) Discussion with Town Manager Sean Kimball

Mr. Kimball began by telling the committee that he was happy to be at the meeting this morning and asked to hear any of the concerns and improvements that the members had to share with him. Members that belonged to Suburban Garden Club extended an invitation to his wife to consider joining them. Mr. Kimball thanked them for that. He went on to say that he is familiar with all of the hard work that is done in Cheshire to make the town more attractive to families and people moving in from other places. The schools and the fact that people can walk to different places is a favorable thing in Cheshire, too. Mr. Bonaminio said that we do the best we can. He also told Mr. Kimball that sometime in the future the committee will meet with George Noewatne, Director of Public Works, to view the different areas around town hall to see where improvements can be made. The committee is looking at manicuring, trimming and possibly making replacements where necessary. Mr. Kimball was also made aware of the various parklets in town, how they are taken care of and how they add to the beauty of the town. A suggestion was also made to possibly plant Day Lilies along the south side of town hall and then annuals for the summer. Ms. Presnick-Lyon mentioned that Cheshire has a wonderful “small town” feel as opposed to the cities that have the “big box” look. Mr. Kimball thanked everyone and hoped to see them in the future.

2) Special Permit – Royal Vision – 831 South Main Street Change from repair to retail

Ms. Suzanne Schore, Landscape Designer for Milone & MacBroom, came before the committee this morning to present the plan for changing part of the gas station from body shop to convenience store. Ms. Schore explained to the committee that the property will not be

modified. The change will be to the interior only. The current garage door bays will be replaced with large picture windows and the building will be enhanced with stone on the bottom. With regard to the high profile peninsula, there was no specific design but ornamental grasses and low growing shrubs such as low growing Sumac will provide color and make significant improvements to the area. The planters will also be changed seasonally and the company will maintain it. Ms. Presnick-Lyon suggested that a bench be added.

A motion was made by Ms. Archibald to accept the plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Presnick-Lyon. All were in favor.

3) Signage – Target Sports USA – 30 Fieldstone Court

Mr. Paul Bianca, of Bianca Signs, came before the committee today to ask for approval for a sign to be located on the building at 30 Fieldstone Court. He said the sign will be a wall sign 2'x 2 ½ "by 27' and will be located above the main entrance of the building on the Fieldstone Court side of the building. It meets the requirements of the sign regulations. The sign will be internally illuminated and the colors will be blue and white with a red bulls eye target. According to Mr. Sitko, the "target" sign is not permitted on the Route 10 side of the building. A motion was made by Ms. Presnick-Lyon to accept the sign proposal as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Archibald. All were in favor.

AWARDS

Mr. Sitko asked the members to think about putting off the awards ceremony until next year and perhaps select new people for the awards. Suggestions for new awards were Viron Rondo, John Ricci, Hartford Health Care, Marbridge and perhaps the new gas station on Rt. 42. A motion was made by Ms. Presnick-Lyon to postpone the awards ceremony until 2020. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fischer. All were in favor.

Letters were also sent out to participants in the "Adopt-a-Spot" program thanking them for their participation and asking them if they intended to continue in the spring.

PROJECTS FOR FY 19

Mr. Sitko said that the town is trying to obtain more parking spaces for the linear trail and is currently looking at an area on Railroad Ave.

Members plan on walking the town hall property with Mr. Noewatne to see about enhancing the property with some trimming and pruning.

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It was noted that purchasing plants and trees comes out of our budget but Public Works could do some of the work for us. The center island at town hall will also have some work done to it. A suggestion was made to plant a Japanese lilac tree in the center.

Members discussed taking part in the chamber of commerce expo. Mr. Sitko said he hasn't heard anything yet about a date. When he does, he will notify the committee.

Liaison Reports

No report

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Archibald and seconded by Ms. Fischer. All were in favor.

The meeting ended at 9:25 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk
Town Beautification Committee