

**MINUTES
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
JULY 10, 2019
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
ROOM 207**

PRESENT: Bonaminio, Archibald, Presnick-Lyon, Meyerjack, Cacace, and Dillman

ABSENT: Fischer and Colacrai

STAFF: Gerald L. Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bonaminio called the meeting 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Meyerjack to accept the minutes of the June 5, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Presnick-Lyon. All were in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

BUSINESS

**A. Site Plan Application – Robert Donnelly – 400 East Johnson Avenue
Warehouse Addition and Parking**

Mr. Sitko presented the site plan to the committee and spoke of the new addition that is proposed for Whole Foods. Mr. Sitko said it will be an 86,000 sq. ft. addition with additional parking.

B. Sign Permit Applications

Mr. Frank Loehman, trustee and president of the John G. Martin Foundation, reviewed what the foundation has supported in Cheshire. Over the past fifteen years funds have been provided for the Cheshire Dog Park, the playground at Bartlem Park and a video production system for the high school. Most recently, he noticed that the Bartlem Park sign is parallel to Route 10 rather than perpendicular and in poor condition. Since he felt that this is one of most important signs in town, he began his research to fix the situation. He began the process by meeting with Mr. Sitko and Mr. Gawlak, director of parks and recreation, and with their help, started the process of improving various signs in the area. He also said that the Cheshire Town Council accepted a check for \$10,500 last night for three new signs along Route 10 and also refurbishing the Medal of Honor sign. To be redone are the Bartlem Park/Cheshire Community Pool sign, the Parks and Recreation sign and the sign at the Yellow House. When Mr. Loehman finished speaking, he let Mr. Robert Neth of CT. Signcraft of Naugatuck discuss the details of each sign.

- 1) Bartlem Park sign is a 4' by 8' sign, 2" thick with carved lettering. The portion that says Bartlem Park and the finials are gold leaf. It is mounted between two steel poles. It will be perpendicular to the road. The new location has been discussed with the police department, parks and recreation and zoning and these departments have indicated that it will not impair vehicular visibility. The sign will also be illuminated from the ground.
- 2) Cheshire Youth Services sign will be 4' by 4' which is the size of the current sign. It's going to be updated to reflect an aluminum framed sign. The logo and the "people" will be raised 3/8" thick acrylic letters. The sign will be mounted between two posts and will be double faced. It will not be illuminated. The location and size of the new sign will remain the same as the old one.

Ms. Archibald asked on behalf of the garden club, if any “damage” would be done to the plantings. She was told no but that she would be notified ahead of time.

- 3) Cheshire Parks and Recreation sign over all will be 38” by 72” with an overall height of 72”. The existing sign will be replaced with the address on the new sign being a bit larger. The color scheme will be consistent with the colors of the other signs that are being replaced. The colors will be blue and white with gold leaf. It will also have steel poles and be illuminated.
- 4) The Medal of Honor sign will basically be removed and refurbished. Since it was an Eagle Scout project from several years ago, the colors will be researched. The star will also be gold leaf and the lights removed. The letters are raised white letters. Perhaps the pole colors could be changed to blue.

A motion was made by Ms. Cacace that the new signs be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dillman. All were in favor.

C. Cheshire Barber Shop – 910B South Main Street – Sign Permit

Ms. Maria Mazzacane-Perez came before the committee and said that she has relocated the Cheshire Barber Shop to 910B South Main Street. She said that her sign is already up and complies with all the rules and regulations that apply to her. The sign is a red, white and blue wall sign and constructed of wood. The dimensions are 2’ by 6.5’ and will not be illuminated. It is located on the exterior wall of the building in the rear and meets the requirements.

A motion was made by Ms. Dillman to accept the sign as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cacace. All were in favor.

D. State Farm – Sign Refacing

The applicant is requesting to reface an existing freestanding sign at 1973 Highland Ave. The company is State Farm Insurance. The colors are red, white and black and the sign is constructed of white PVC and vinyl. The dimensions are 55 ¾ “ by 48 ½ “ and will be illuminated from the ground.

A motion was made by Ms. Dillman to accept the sign refurbishing as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Archibald. All were in favor.

Town Hall Grounds

Discussion ensued concerning the town hall grounds and Mr. Sitko said that a purchase order had been processed for Brookside Landscaping to do the work. Ms. Dillman stated another quote should be obtained. Mr. Sitko said he had called another company four times and received no response, therefore, he went with Brookside. After some discussion, members felt that it would be a good idea to wait until the fall to do the work. Members also felt that town hall property should look much better. Mr. Sitko suggested that they develop a proposal and present it at budget time requesting another employee or contractor be hired to help with the work.

Parks and Recreation Department Grounds

Mr. Gawlak noted that the grounds were overgrown. Mr. Bonaminio asked the committee to review his suggested planting plan. They felt that Sugar Maples or Red Maples be planted where the row of hedges were. Ms. Cacace also suggested that Daffodils be planted behind the Daylilies so when the Daffodils die the Daylilies would bloom. Mr. Sitko said that low maintenance was needed. Mr. Sitko also suggested that members of the committee meet at the site to determine on what is to be done. Committee members decided to meet Friday afternoon at 2 p.m. at Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Gawlak then asked about an area at Cheshire Park near Route 10. He said it was terribly overgrown and needs lots of help. The TBC would like the hedges removed. Mr. Gawlak approved.

Adopt-a-Spot

Members felt that the spots looked good. It was also noted that the Dietrich "spot" at I-691 had been redone recently and looks outstanding.

325th Anniversary

Mr. Sitko said that things are being done by the Library staff, the Cheshire Historical Society and the Fall Festival committee to recognize the 325th anniversary of Cheshire.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting ended at 9:15 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk
Town Beautification Committee