

**MINUTES
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 5, 2011
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
ROOM 207**

PRESENT: Bonaminio, Cacace, Presnick-Lyon, Linder, O'Donnell
Dawson and Archibald

ABSENT: Truluck, Voelker, Pelletier, Meyerjack and Ecke

STAFF: Gerald L. Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Bonaminio called the meeting to order at 7: 34 a.m.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

There was no quorum until the arrival of Mr. O'Donnell at 7:38 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Cacace and seconded by Ms. Archibald to accept the minutes of the September 7, 2011 meeting with one correction. Under "Adopt-a-Spot," after the word Firehouse, the addition of "sponsored by Congregation Kol-Ami" should be added. Ms. Archibald also asked that the first sentence in the second paragraph under "Discussion" be eliminated. She wanted it to say that the rules should be changed to have fewer members to constitute a quorum. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Linder and seconded by Ms. Presnick-Lyon to accept the minutes of the September 21, 2011 sign subcommittee meeting. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

BUSINESS

Plan Reviews

**Special Permit – Jorasa LLC – 382 South Main Street
Professional Office Building & Two Residential Dwelling Units**

Mr. Michael Doherty, of Milone & MacBroom appeared before the committee this morning to present the proposed plan for a 10,000 sq. ft. building with the potential of two apartments on the third floor. Also included is the landscaping plan. One building previously housed Total Tree Care. The other now houses Crossfit Fitness. The proposed use will be for professional offices with pediatric and occupational therapy included. There will be a looped entry in the front, but the main entrance will be in the rear. Lawn will replace the bituminous currently in the front, therefore making the look more residential. The owner will be doing the demolition prior to construction. Parking for approximately 35 cars will also be in the rear of the building. Most of the parking area will have no plantings, except towards the rear. Some suggested plantings are: River Birch, Swamp White Oak, Hornbeam, Azaleas, Inkberry, Juniper and other various plantings. Currently, there is no sign proposed for the area. Ms. Cacace asked about sidewalks and was told that the traffic was at a minimum therefore they were not needed. Members also suggested that columnar plantings such as Slender Hornbeam be done along the side of the building. Plants that resist spreading would be best. Members were in favor of the proposal and found it to be acceptable.

SIGN REVIEWS

The sign subcommittee reviewed a sign for the Law Offices of Allisan Lee Adams on 411 West Main Street. The subcommittee found the proposed sign acceptable.

The subcommittee also discussed a canopy on the CITGO station at Route 10 and Maple Avenue. The committee agreed to have a CITGO Logo only on the Maple Avenue and Route 10 sides of the canopy.

COMMITTEES

Expo

No report.

Adopt-a-Spot

Letters have been sent to all participants thanking them for their participation. Another letter was sent to Congregation Kol-Ami congratulating them for having the best display.

Trees

No report

Barrels

The barrels will be replanted this coming Saturday by the Boy Scouts. Due to the heavy snow last winter, some frames may have to be replaced.

West Main Street Commercial Area

The area is looking good with the new pavers. Mr. Sitko said that some additional work will have to be done. He also noted that due to culvert problems, the finishing of the culvert will have to be delayed until next year. This will delay completion of the streetscape project.

TBC Awards

Mr. Sitko asked the committee to still keep looking for properties that are being kept up. Currently, Brix, Ten Corporate Center, Lucinda's and Mazzella's Auto Body have been suggested for awards.

Town Hall Wall

The wall is now complete.

Street Trees

Mr. Bonaminio discussed various prices for planting trees throughout town. Ms. Cacace suggested that a subcommittee be formed to decide what trees go where. Ms. Archibald also asked if we could approach the property owners to see if they were willing to pay half the amount of the tree. Mr. Sitko also said that it would be a wise idea to prioritize the areas. Mr. Bonaminio added that a permit would be necessary from the state if any of the trees would be planted on state roads. The owners also should be asked if they desired a new tree on their property. The tree subcommittee for planting the new trees will consist of Ms. Archibald, Ms. Cacace, Mr. Bonaminio and Mr. Linder.

Library

The plantings at the library are now complete.

Fire Station #3

Mr. Linder reported that the tree planting project at the firehouse is now complete. The work was done by Brookside.

REPORTS

Parks & Recreation

No report.

Economic Development

No report.

Planning & Zoning

No report.

Town Council

No report.

DISCUSSION

There was a discussion by the committee this morning concerning the problem with quorums. Discussion ensued on how to reduce the number of members to fill a quorum or how to fill vacancies. Mr. Sitko remembered that in the beginning the TBC was called a “steering committee”. It was ad hoc for a number of years. He also noted that this is the only committee where a person is allowed to serve on more than one committee. Mr. O’Donnell suggested that a subcommittee write up something reasonable and submit it for approval. Ms. Archibald suggested that if the total number of attendees were to be nine, the quorum would be five, therefore making it feasible. Ms. Cacace and Ms. Archibald agreed to get together to write up a suggestion for the next meeting. The suggestion, when approved by the committee, would then be submitted to the town manager for approval.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. O’Donnell and seconded by Mr. Dawson to adjourn.

The meeting ended at 8:34 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk
Town Beautification Committee