

**MINUTES  
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
MAY 2, 2012  
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL  
ROOM 207**

**PRESENT:** Bonaminio, Voelker, Presnick-Lyon, O'Donnell,  
Meyerjack, Cacace and Archibald

**ABSENT:** Truluck and Linder

**STAFF:** Gerald L. Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bonaminio called the meeting to order at 7: 32 a.m.

**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the April 4, 2012 meeting were accepted. A motion was made to accept by Mr. Meyerjack and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell. All were in favor.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Sitko presented a note to the committee from the residents of 622 Tamarack Road thanking the committee for recognizing a flowering pear tree in their yard as a tree to be appreciated.

A folder, made by the students at Highland School, was also shown to the committee. The folder had pictures showing the tree planting ceremony held at the school.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Barrels**

Mr. Bonaminio mentioned that the barrels looked beautiful, colorful, and very full. He said they make a nice showing. He was asked when the next planting was to take place and was told it could be Memorial Day depending how the pansies hold up.

### **West Main Street Commercial Streetscape Project**

Mr. Bonaminio said there was a meeting on the project recently and asked Mr. Sitko for the details. Mr. Sitko said that he met with the contractor and fence subcontractor yesterday and was told that everything is on schedule with a May 15 finish date. Before then, the fence has to be moved to accommodate the turning radius for trucks at Lyon & Billard. Mr. Sitko also told the committee that Stop & Shop has agreed to do some streetscape improvements for its project at the Sunoco station. Their construction will begin sometime in September. Mr. Sitko said that he expected the entire project to be finished in the fall. He also told the committee that there was some discussion about planters for the area and it was decided that initially five concrete planters would be chosen to enhance the area. Mr. Sitko said he would like to have the town and the scouts under the auspices of the Town Beautification Committee plant and maintain them. Originally, it was thought that trees could be planted on the island of refuge, but it was determined that an AT&T fiber optic cable is in the way. Planters may be placed on the island of refuge instead. The island of refuge will be raised with a granite curb surrounding it.

### **TBC Awards**

Ms. Archibald began by nominating a neighborhood for an award. The neighborhood is at Platts Knoll. The homes are: 619,622 and 625 Tamarack Road and 628 Tudor Drive. The town garage was also suggested.

### **Street Trees**

Mr. Sitko felt that it would be necessary to wait until next year's budget to plant. Mr. O'Donnell suggested that perhaps the town could advertise "legacy" trees where donations could be made in honor or in memory of someone toward planting trees. Mr. O'Donnell said he would check out the proper procedure with Parks & Recreation and get back to the committee then a list of trees would be made available. A plaque might be available to be placed near the tree to those who desired it.

### **Arbor Day**

Members noted several trees in town to be nominated as trees to be appreciated. The trees chosen had green ribbons tied to them for all to see.

Plantings at the schools will be taking place during the next few weeks. The dates and places for the plantings are: today at 9:30 a.m. at Norton School, May 4 at Chapman School and May 11 at Humiston School.

### **Adopt-a-Spot**

Mr. Sitko said that all letters have been sent to those wishing to participate in the Adopt-a-Spot program. Artsplace will not be added to the program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Sign Reviews**

#### **136 Elm Street – Olympic Taekwondo Academy**

Mr. Sam Vito and the applicants appeared before the committee this morning to discuss the proposed sign for the business. Mr. Sitko began by telling the committee that the Taekwondo Academy will be located in the space previously occupied by TOYZ. They are proposing two signs, one sign facing Elm Street and the other hanging over the door. They are allowed two wall signs, but rather than do that they opted for a sign on Elm Street and a hanging sign over the door. Mr. Vito added that the new sign over the door will be replaced and will have the company logo and name on it and will not be illuminated. The other sign will be a bit larger than the current sign. It will have a colonial style frame to fit in with the architecture of the area. The new signs meet with the sign regulations. Mr. Sitko added that he recently met with the building owner, Mr. Moruzzi, to discuss the amount of current signs and Mr. Moruzzi said the he would like to spruce up the sign directory that is there now and move one closer to the corner. He said that as businesses turn over some signs would be removed. Mr. Bonaminio, on behalf of the committee, told the applicants that the sign met with approval and thanked them for coming.

#### **191 Highland Avenue – Froyo World Frozen Yogurt Lounge**

The applicant was not available this morning, but Mr. Sitko told the committee that Froyo World would be taking the place of the former Hallmark Store in Maplecroft Plaza. The sign will be red and white and will be illuminated. The applicant has met the criteria of the sign regulations and is approved.

### **Plan Reviews**

Mr. Sitko announced to the committee that an application has been submitted to planning & zoning by Dalton Enterprises for 47,000 sq. ft. of warehouse on its property.

## **DISCUSSION**

Ms. Voelker said she has noticed that the poles holding the “Welcome to Cheshire” signs are in need of paint. Mr. Sitko said he has noticed it too and will attend to it.

Mr. Bonaminio said that he spoke to the landscaper concerning old St. Bridget Cemetery about perhaps changing the plantings and sprucing it up a bit. Members discussed different types of plants that could be used and suggestions were Chocolate Coral Bell, Black Eyed Susan, Coneflower and White Daisies.

**Economic Development Commission**

Mr. Sitko told the committee that at the last meeting of the EDC, the commissioner of CT DOT, Mr. Redecker, was there and Mr. Sitko asked Mr. Bonaminio if he could speak about the wall across from the old Huxley's and he did. The commissioner said to send him an e-mail concerning the wall and said he would check to see what could be done about fixing it.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. O'Donnell and seconded by Ms. Presnick-Lyon.

The meeting ended at 8:36 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk  
Town Beautification Committee