

**MINUTES  
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 1, 2012  
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL  
ROOM 207**

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

**ABSENT:** Linder

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bonaminio called the meeting to order at 7: 30 a.m.

**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum was present.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the June 6, 2012 meeting were accepted with one correction. On page 2 the last line, "because they are low growing" should be omitted. A motion was made to accept by Mr. Meyerjack and seconded by Ms. Presnick-Lyon. All were in favor.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Sitko gave everyone a new copy of the membership list to everyone omitting the name of Ms. Truluck and adding the name of Ms. Dillman. Ms. Dillman is a member of Suburban Garden Club and will be an asset to the committee. She was introduced to the committee by Mr. Bonaminio.

**Discussion:**

There was some discussion concerning the plantings at the parklet on Main and Route 10. Members discussed using Dwarf Holly, Boxwood and Knockout Roses.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Barrels**

Due to the rain, the barrels are looking very nice and colorful. Hopefully, they will remain that way until the fall.

### **West Main Street Project**

Mr. Sitko began by telling the committee that the streetscape project is just about complete. He also informed everyone that there is an estimated \$41,000 left from the project. A check of Milone & MacBroom, the contractors and utilities still must be made to assure everyone was paid and what, if anything, was still due to them. He then said that Stop & Shop will be doing the street improvements at the site where their gas station will be. That will also bring in another savings of about \$25,000. Mr. Sitko said that the money could be used to enhance the area and perhaps put in an additional bench or two, but nothing will be done until the amount of money left is confirmed. The streetscape committee has talked about getting some signs and a few more planters in the area. Mr. Bonaminio commented on the isle of refuge. He felt that it should be larger than it is. Mr. Sitko reminded him that it was a DOT project. He went on to say that the isle of refuge was designed to accommodate the trucks from Lyon & Billard and also the concerns of the police and fire departments. The DOT requirements had to be met as well.

Mr. O'Donnell asked about the future of the old Ball & Socket factory. Mr. Sitko said that in some respects it is tied to the linear trail. Dalton does not want traffic crossing the linear trail, therefore an internal driveway is being considered as an option to alleviate this.

### **TBC Awards**

A suggestion was made to include Westbrook Commons on Waterbury Road. Mr. Mazzella, owner of the property, has made considerable effort to plant flowers and keep the property looking presentable. Mr. Bonaminio asked the committee to keep on the lookout for other notable properties.

### **Street Trees**

Mr. Bonaminio said that the area in front of the bowling alley on Highland Avenue could use a few trees. Ms. Archibald asked if permission from the owner was needed prior to working on the property. She was told that permission was needed. Ms. Archibald then suggested that the committee start now so that plantings could be ready for the fall. The committee also discussed old St. Bridget Cemetery and thought that perhaps some perennials would be nice in that area.

They thought something that didn't need constant care would be best suited. A suggestion by Mr. Bonaminio was Daylilies of one color. He felt that a solid mass of color would be a stunning attraction.

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

Members felt that the "spot" being managed by Highland Health Care on Highland Avenue was sparse and needed attention. Mr. Sitko said he would call them. Members felt that the other "spots" were doing fine and well maintained.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Sign Reviews**

No reviews.

### **Plan Reviews**

No reviews.

### **Temporary Signs along Route 10**

Members asked about the sandwich board signs and the signs with wire legs. They were told that temporary advertising signs were restricted to six times per year for a 14-day period with a permit. Wire signs can be removed if they are in a right of way. Ms. Cacace said that if businesses all used directory signs they could add remove the names of businesses as they come or go.

### **Motion by Ms. Cacace:**

A motion was made by Pauline Cacace that the Zoning Enforcement Officer address the proliferation of temporary wire signs throughout town. The motion was seconded by Ms. Archibald. All were in favor.

### **Route 10 Retaining Wall**

Mr. Sitko said that he had met with Mr. Michelangelo, Director of Public Works, and asked the Commissioner of the State Department of Transportation if there was anything that could be done to enhance the retaining wall on South Main Street. The commissioner said he would

follow through with the request, but a letter had to be sent to him. After the letter was sent, members of his department visited the wall and said there were options. The sidewalk work that would be done had to accommodate the handicapped.

Ms. Archibald then asked about a blight ordinance for Cheshire. Mr. O'Donnell said that in order to have a blight ordinance in town, all the committees must approve it before it went to the town council for final approval.

### **Report for Parks & Recreation**

Mr. O'Donnell reported that hopefully the parklet will be completed within the week. He said the recent concert had been moved to Bartlem Park and did very well.

### **Other**

Mr. Bonaminio reminded the committee of the Fall Festival that is going to be held at Bartlem Park on September 8 (rain date 9/9).

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. O'Donnell and seconded by Ms. Cacace. The meeting ended at 8:40.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk  
Town Beautification Committee