

**MINUTES
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 7, 2012
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
ROOM 207**

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

ABSENT: Linder, O'Donnell and Cacace

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

A quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the October 3, 2012 meeting were approved as presented. The motion to approve was made by Ms. Archibald and seconded by Ms. Voelker.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

OLD BUSINESS

Barrels

Members felt that the current status of the barrels was not bad. Ms. Archibald suggested that different types of plants be used for next year. Nothing will be done with them now until the

planting of greens for the holidays. The changeover will take place the week before Thanksgiving.

West Main Street commercial Streetscape Project

Mr. Sitko informed the committee that there is still some work to be done and that CL&P still has to light the ornamental lights. The five new planters are due to arrive shortly and when they do the Boy Scouts will plant and maintain them. There is also a final meeting planned for tomorrow (Thurs. 11/8) at 1 p.m. with the business and property owners at The Place. The project and the trail will be discussed. Mr. Sitko went on to say that the town currently has an application in to the state for a grant for the extension of sidewalks from Grove Street up to the Waverly, but it could be a while before any news is received.

Mr. Meyerjack asked of the Stop & Shop gas station was going in according to plan. Mr. Sitko felt that is was and that included the sidewalks and aprons.

Mr. Sitko announced that about nine of the streetscape project businesses in the West Main Street area are having a holiday open house this week Friday and Saturday.

TBC Awards

The committee reviewed the list of possible 2012 award recipients. The selection of Westbrook Commons was discussed. Although the committee felt that the front and side of the property was beautifully decorated, temporary signs which have accumulated on the property detract from that beauty. They felt that if the signs were removed, the award would be given. The TBC doesn't condone having these signs and perhaps if someone spoke to the owner the signs could be removed. Ms. Dillman had pictures that she showed to the committee of the Westbrook property and also that of the area around Weiss Road and Country Club Road, another suggestion for an award. Ms. Dillman also suggested R.W. Hine Hardware for an award. She said, and all agreed, that R.W. Hine Hardware is always decorated for the seasons. Ms. Dillman had pictures of R.W. Hine decorated for fall with pumpkins and corn husks.

The nominees for the TBC 2012 awards are: Weiss Road, Country Club Road (4 houses) for area award; Dunkin' Donuts, Lucinda's, Tower Farms and Westbrook Commons for business award; Restored Keeler House for historical award; Law Offices of Kevin Hecht, Pink Petunia, Norton Brothers Fruit Farm, The Victorian House and Hine Hardware for multi-seasonal awards; and West Main Streetscape Committee for a special award.

The committee will vote on the awards next month.

Street Trees

Mr. Bonaminio said he worked with Total Tree Care and came up with a list of possible tree plantings in town. Since the list included 25 different places that needed trees, the committee reviewed it and came up with two places that would receive trees this year. Alderson Funeral Home and Cheshire Parks & Recreation would be the sites of the first trees. Mr. Bonaminio said the new trees would have to be a decent caliper and reasonably priced. He felt that a good tree would cost approximately cost \$400 to \$500 per tree. He also felt that the trees should be looked at before they are delivered to insure quality. Suggested trees for the funeral home were 2 1/2 to 3 inch caliper Sugar Maple or Oak trees and for Cheshire Parks & Recreation a 1 1/2 to 2 inch caliper Kousa Dogwood or a hardy type Crab Apple. The committee felt that three trees would be purchased this year to leave money for other plantings and the barrels for the coming year. All agreed.

Adopt-a-Spot

Mr. Bonaminio complimented the Suburban Garden Club for the wonderful job they did at the plantings at the Yellow House this summer. The club received the TBC award for the best “spot”. They were deserving of the award. Mr. Sitko said that all those that were part of the Adopt-a-Spot program were sent letters of thanks. Next year some changes may be made.

NEW BUSINESS

Sign Reviews

Richard Chevrolet – 1405 Highland Avenue

Richard Rizzo, representative of National Sign, sign installer for Richard Chevrolet in Cheshire was present at the meeting this morning. Mr. Rizzo addressed the members of the committee concerning the new sign to be installed at Richard Chevrolet. He showed colored pictures indicating the new type of entry that has been installed at the dealership. He said the entry will consist of a new type of composite material and according to specifications, will be 30 feet wide. On the top of the entry way will be the Chevrolet insignia and the word “Chevrolet”. The letters will be 25 inches high and will be constructed of aluminum and acrylic. They will be internally illuminated with led lighting and in the colors of blue, white and gold. The sign over the bays to the left of the main entrance, also in aluminum and acrylic, will read “Certified Service” and will be 16 inch letters centered over the two doors. The proposed signage meets the requirements of the sign regulations. A motion was made by Mr. Meyerjack to approve the sign application as presented and was seconded by Ms. Dillman. All were in agreement.

Plan Reviews

There were no reviews.

Liaison Reports

There were no reports.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Meyerjack to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ms. Presnick-Lyon. All were in favor.

The meeting ended at 8:45 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk
Town Beautification Committee