

**MINUTES  
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
MAY 1, 2013  
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL  
ROOM 207**

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

**ABSENT:** O'Donnell

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bonaminio called the meeting to order at 7: 33 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 3, 2013 regular meeting and the April 17, 2013 sign subcommittee meeting were approved as presented. The motion to approve both was made by Mr. Meyerjack and seconded by Mr. Linder. All were in favor.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Home and Garden Expo – Wrap up**

Mr. Bonaminio began by stating that he has not heard anything yet from the chamber about the results from the Expo. Members that attended felt that the flow was slow in the morning, but had picked up by afternoon. They also felt that there were fewer children than in the past. Mr. Bonaminio suggested that perhaps in the future a good

idea would be to have an attraction like a sports figure or something similar to draw the kids. Ms. Archibald thought if the Expo were held earlier in the year maybe more children would be interested, but Ms. Presnick-Lyon said that those involved in sports were already practicing or playing. Mr. Sitko said he felt that the TBC display was excellent. Ms. Dillman then asked why the TBC was involved in the Expo. Mr. Sitko explained that many years ago the TBC was involved in the flower show in Hartford and received quite a bit of recognition. After that, the TBC, decided to do a conference on beautification at the library. It was a very well received program. Then Mr. Papandrea thought that it would be a good idea for the committee to host some sort of expo featuring many of the growers and businesses in Cheshire. At that time, the committee felt that the undertaking was too much for them. Therefore, the Cheshire Chamber of Commerce decided to do it and asked the TBC to partner with them. There was some discussion whether the TBC should continue their sponsorship with the Expo or not. Ms. Archibald suggested the TBC taking a booth instead of being a Premier Sponsor. Ms. Dillman said she was also in favor of the committee taking a booth and being less of a sponsor. They felt that the money would be better spent purchasing trees. At this time members felt they would table the matter for a discussion and vote at a future meeting.

### **Barrels**

Ms. Archibald said she spoke to Mr. Thatcher recently and that the new barrels on West Main Street are all in place and ready for planting. Ms. Archibald also said that pansies would not be used early this year as in the past. They would go directly into plants that will remain during the summer. Firebird Cana Lilies, Geraniums and Cascading Ivy will be used for some, while perennial grasses and Begonias will be used in others. Some of the barrels will be moved and others grouped together to make a stronger statement. Ms. Archibald also spoke to members of the Congregational Church to see if the barrels could be placed on church property, but was told that the church was not interested.

### **TBC Awards**

Members were asked to keep watching for properties that were exceptionally beautiful and worthy of an award next year.

### **Street Trees**

New trees will be planted in front of Alderson Funeral Home and in front of the bowling alley on Highland Avenue. Plantings will be done, hopefully, this spring. Some type of dogwood or ornamental cherry trees will be used.

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

Mr. Sitko said that all the information has been sent to the interested parties, but another reminder will be sent shortly. Those adopting a “spot” will be reminded that all plantings must be done by Memorial Day weekend.

### **Gateway Parklet**

Mr. Sitko said he spoke with Mr. Ceccolini of Parks and Recreation and was told that the Connecticut DOT will be making changes to that corner in the near future. They will be moving or removing a large Kousa Dogwood in the parklet. Mr. Sitko said that he has not seen definite plans yet.

### **Donations in memory of Blanche McKeagney**

It was noted that when Mrs. McKeagney passed away, her family asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Cheshire Town Beautification Committee. To date, Mr. Sitko said two checks have been received and will be used when the committee sees fit.

### **Arbor Day Week Activities**

Mr. Bonaminio said that the programs held at the various elementary schools were a success. Ms. Dillman said she has pictures of the planting at Highland School and will bring them to the next meeting. Mr. Sitko said when all the pictures are received, he will send some to the Cheshire Herald for publication. Ms. Cacace suggested that in the future a different type of tree be use so that the children could see it in bloom. Another thought was to plant at Darcey School next year. Since Darcey has never been a part of the program it would be a good idea and there is room to plant there.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Sign Reviews**

#### **Paradise Spa & Nails – 1020 South Main Street**

Mr. Mark DeTulio of Sign Lite came before the committee this morning to present the application for the spa and nail salon. Mr. DeTulio said that the business will be located in the former Top Notch Cleaners site in Everybody’s Plaza. The application is for a wall sign the will be violet and white translucent vinyl with aluminum letters. It will be

internally lit with LED lighting. Mr. Sitko noted that the Zoning Enforcement Officer has found the dimensions acceptable. A motion was made by Mr. Meyerjack to approve the application for the sign and seconded by Ms. Presnick-Lyon. All were in favor.

**Liaison Reports**

No reports.

**Discussion**

Mr. Sitko announced to the committee that every other year or so the Economic Development Commission hosts Business Appreciation Day. This year the program will be held on June 6 at Elim Park. The guest speaker will be President John Leahy of Quinnipiac University. All members of the TBC are invited to attend.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting ended at 8:21a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk  
Town Beautification Committee