

**MINUTES
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 4, 2013
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
ROOM 207**

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

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

A motion was made by Mr. O'Donnell to accept the minutes of the July 10, 2013 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Meyerjack. One correction was noted. That correction was that Ms. Voelker was listed as vice chairman for the July meeting when she was actually the secretary. A motion was then made by Ms. Dillman to accept the corrected minutes and seconded by Mr. Meyerjack.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

OLD BUSINESS

Barrels

Mr. Bonaminio noted that the barrels are looking beautiful. Mr. Sitko said he spoke with Sylvia Nichols and she commented on how pretty the barrels on West Main Street look. Ms. Archibald said that the town barrels received the public beauty spot award. She also said that the barrels would not be changed until after the first frost.

Mr. Sitko said he and Mr. Bonaminio met with Mr. Thatcher concerning the care of the barrels. He asked Mr. Thatcher to communicate more concerning the care and watering of the barrels. Ms. Archibald noted that ceramic planters tend to lose moisture quicker than the wooden barrels. Mr. Sitko added that Mr. Thatcher will also take care of the bands on the barrels that are slipping off. The TBC discussed phasing out the wooden barrels eventually with new planters.

TBC Awards

Members were asked to continue looking for new places worthy of an award. New suggestions were a suggestion by Inge Venus to look at Dodd Middle School. Ms. Archibald suggested Drazen Orchards.

Street Trees

Currently the committee is planning to plant trees in front of Alderson Funeral Home and Cheshire Bowl on Highland Ave. Mr. Bonaminio and Mr. Sitko will meet with the owners of both businesses. Some suggested trees were Sugar Maple and Beech. The committee would prefer using native trees. Trees that would withstand storms would be the best. Members also suggested notifying the Cheshire Herald to do a picture and article on the plantings.

Adopt-a-Spot

Ms. Cacace had pictures of the “spots” in town and showed them to the committee. They were really beautiful because everything was in full bloom and colorful. She noted that overall the areas looked good and suggested an article with pictures be placed in the Cheshire Herald. Ms. Archibald added that in addition to the Herald perhaps the Cheshire Citizen and Record-Journal be notified too.

Gateway Parklet

Mr. O’Donnell said that the Gateway Parklet at Route 10 and Maple Avenue is finished. Parks & Recreation still has some cleanup work to do, but will wait until it is completely done. It was noted that during the process there was very little disruption.

NEW BUSINESS

Plan Reviews

Consolidated Industries – 677 Mixville Road – Expansion to relocate hammer shop

Mr. Sitko began by telling the committee that Consolidated Industries is planning a new building on Waterbury Road. Currently there is a large and a small building. The smaller one will be taken down and replaced by a new building to house 4 new and more efficient hammers. Neighbors are concerned about both buildings with hammers running at the same time. Mr. Sitko noted that Consolidated Industries has new owners and has done a good job cleaning up the property, but needs new equipment. The new hammers will not be operated by steam as the current ones are. No landscaping plan has been submitted, but the manufacturer is open to any suggestions that the committee might have. No recommendations were made by the TBC.

**HAI Group Facilities/Bill Lewellyn – 189 Commerce Court
Special Permit – Building Addition & Associated Additional Parking**

Mr. Sitko said that HAI Group provides insurance and other services to public housing authorities throughout the country. He also noted that there is a television studio on site. The company owns 2 lots. They are planning a building addition and a small courtyard. They will also relocate the parking lot. A landscaping plan has been submitted and the plan calls for 3 ½ to 4 inch caliper trees. Suggested trees are: Honey Locust, Honey Maple, Linden, and River Birch. There will also be several plantings around the building. These plantings include: Flowering Dogwood, Eastern White Pine, Hornbeam, Japanese Lilac Boxwood and Sweet Pepperbush. Members felt that it was a very attractive and ambitious plan and are interested in seeing it when completed. No recommendations were made.

Center Parklet – Route 10/68/70

Mr. Sitko once again noted that Yankee Gas built 3 vaults at the intersection of Routes 10/68/70 that are in need of renovation. When built, the vaults should have been at ground level. They are now leaking and taking on water. There have been several suggestions made about the landscaping that will occur once the vaults are renovated. One suggestion is the installation of large spheres in front of the vaults. Another was planters. The latter suggestion seemed more appropriate and the members agreed. Another proposal was to extend the pavers around the vaults therefore giving access to Yankee Gas trucks that would have to park there during maintenance of the vaults. Ms. Dillman suggested that the committee start looking for planters now to be ready when the time comes. Planters that are insulated with glazing on the inside and a drainage hole would be the best. They felt that three planters would be needed for the site. Ms. Presnick-Lyon thought that a long box type composition type planter would look nice there and members agreed. Members also felt that when Yankee Gas contributed the funds, the town should purchase the planters.

Change to Signage for Naugatuck Savings Bank

Naugatuck Savings Bank will be undergoing a name change later in the fall. The new name of the bank will be ION Bank. No new signs are planned and the dimensions of the existing signs will not change.

Liaison Reports

Mr. O'Donnell had nothing to report from Parks and Recreation.

Discussion

Mr. Sitko said the Ms. Cacace was reappointed to the Town Beautification Committee and suggested another vote for her as vice-chairman. Mr. O'Donnell made a motion to nominate Ms. Cacace as vice-chairman of the Town Beautification Committee. Ms. Presnick-Lyon seconded the motion. All were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting ended at 8:51 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk
Town Beautification Committee