



**MOTION** by Mike O'Donnell that the Town Beautification Committee approves the minutes from the March 5, 2014 Regular Meeting as submitted. **SECONDED** by Pat Archibald.

VOTE: In Favor – Archibald, Bonaminio, O'Donnell, Presnick-Lyon and Vitarelli  
Opposed – None

The motion passed 5 – 0.

**MOTION** by Mike O'Donnell that the Town Beautification Committee approves the minutes from the March 19, 2014 Sign Subcommittee Meeting as submitted. **SECONDED** by Pat Archibald.

VOTE: In Favor – Archibald, Bonaminio, O'Donnell, Presnick-Lyon and Vitarelli  
Opposed – None

The motion passed 5 – 0.

## **VI. COMMUNICATIONS**

There were no communications to the Town Beautification Committee

## **VII. BUSINESS**

### A. Signage Review

#### 1. 1081 South Main Street – Carbone Jewelers

Mr. Sitko noted that the Zoning Enforcement Officer is OK with the proposed Carbone Jewelers sign. He added that the store is located in the Country Plaza on South Main Street, which has a mix of sign colors on the different signs in the Plaza. Mr. Sitko noted that the Committee cannot regulate color.

Members reviewed the proposed sign application and noted that the dimensions are acceptable. Mr. O'Donnell stated that the proposed sign looks fine.

**MOTION** by Mike O'Donnell that the Town Beautification Committee approves the proposed sign for Carbone Jewelers at 1081 South Main Street as submitted. **SECONDED** by Jane Presnick-Lyon.

VOTE: In Favor – Archibald, Bonaminio, O'Donnell, Presnick-Lyon and Vitarelli  
Opposed – None

The motion passed 5 – 0.

B. Chamber Home, Garden and Business Expo – April 12

Chairman Bonaminio stated that there will be a planting station with tomato plants at the Chamber of Commerce Home, Garden and Business Expo next Saturday. Cheshire Nursery will be providing an arbor and some shrubs for the Expo. Members talked about having seed packets for handout at the Town Beautification Committee table, preferably sunflower seeds. Chairman Bonaminio suggested having a handout explaining the many projects the Town Beautification Committee is involved in around Cheshire.

Mr. O'Donnell suggested that at next year's Expo, the Committee could do something with herbs, possibly as part of the planting station. Chairman Bonaminio suggested possibly raffling off a herb pot at this year's Expo.

C. Adopt-A-Spot Program

Mr. Sitko stated that the Town Beautification Committee's Adopt-A-Spot program will be starting up again soon. The Masons will be taking over the Spot at the corner of Route 10 and Country Club Road. An ad will hopefully run in this week's Cheshire Herald looking for someone to adopt the spot on the south end of Town. There will also be an ad in the Chamber of Commerce electronic newsletter. Mr. Sitko noted that Dietrich Gardens will be adopting the spot at the corner of Route 10 and Interstate 691 again. All the other organizations will be returning again this year to the other locations.

D. Arbor Day – April 25

Mr. Sitko stated that a letter regarding Arbor Day has gone out to 5 schools in Cheshire. Chairman Bonaminio stated that he is looking forward to the program again this year. Mr. Sitko stated that he would keep the Committee up to date on the responses and will put together a schedule once he has received all the responses.

Mr. Sitko reminded the Committee that the Trees to be Appreciated program will be coming up again soon so everyone should start to think of which trees to should be recognized this year.

E. Planters

Mr. Sitko explained that he has received a quote from Abilities without Boundaries for watering 11 Town planters, between the 8 on Route 10, near the Town Green and the 3 on West Main Street, for \$25 per watering event. Typically the service would be done April through October, depending on the weather and when the different plantings are put into the planters. Ms. Archibald asked for the contact information for the representative at Abilities without Boundaries so that she can coordinate after the planters are filled and be informed for the waterings each time. Ms. Archibald noted that the Summer planters will have ivy, begonias, Cannas, yellow biden and tall grasses.

Committee members talked about the parklet on the corner of Route 10 and Main Street, which has the Yankee Gas vaults. Members were concerned that they will not be able to put planters near the vaults because of the parking area that was recently added to the parklet, after the additional vault was added. There was discussion about possibly adding a bench to the parklet and the need to determine what would fit with the space available at the parklet. Mr. Sitko noted that the Town did receive some additional money from Yankee Gas for more plantings. Mr. Sitko also stated that the parklet lights have been out for a while.

#### F. Meeting with CL & P Re: Tree Trimming

Mr. Sitko stated that he talked to PURA, who has asked CL & P to halt their enhanced tree trimming but has stated that is OK to finish where they have already started trimming. Mr. O'Donnell commented that he understands trimming back where the branches interact with the power lines but a lot of the trimming seems to be excessive.

Mr. Sitko informed the Commissioners that there will be a second meeting with CL & P at 10:30am today at Town Hall. Commissioners commented how bad the trimming that was done on Jinny Hill Road is. There was also discussion of a resident from the corner of Country Club Road and Wiese Road who was very upset with CL & P. The resident had said that she did not want her tree touched but returned home one day to find that the CL & P crew had indeed trimmed the tree. It was noted that CL & P can trim any trees within 25 feet from the centerline of the road. Mr. Sitko and Chairman Bonaminio both agreed that they thought the first meeting with CL & P had gone well but they have not seen any positive changes to the work they are doing on trimming the trees.

#### G. Televising TBC Meeting

The Town Beautification Committee is scheduled to meet in Council Chambers on June 4<sup>th</sup> so that the meeting can be broadcast live. Ms. Archibald suggested that next year's Town Beautification Committee Awards be done in Council Chambers so they too can be broadcast.

#### H. Liaison Reports

Mr. O'Donnell, Park and Recreation Representative reported that a replacement for Paul has been hired at the Park and Recreation Department, although the new hire has big shoes to fill. Mr. O'Donnell noted that the new hire has come with good qualifications and has over 20 years of experience. Chairman Bonaminio added that he would be happy to give any pruning advice, whenever it is needed around Town. Mr. O'Donnell noted that the Spring programs will be starting soon at the Park and Recreation Department and that crews are busy cleaning up the Town parks. The lights at the parklet on the corner of Route 10 and Cook Hill Road have been fixed after some vandalism. It was suggested that a trashcan should be added on West Main Street, near the bench and planter because people are putting their garbage into the planter right now. Committee members

noted that there is really not a lot of litter on the Linear with the trash cans set up at each intersection.

Chairman Bonaminio mentioned that the Junipers near the Cheshire Park entrance at Stony Hill Road are overrun with Bittersweet. He added that now is the time to clean the Junipers up. Mr. O'Donnell replied that he would mention it to Mr. Ceccolini, the Director of Parks and Recreation.

Chairman Bonaminio talked about St. Bridget's Cemetery and the need to possibly thin out the mulch and/or add more low maintenance plants like Blacked Eyed Susans or Lilies. Committee members agreed that the Cemetery could use some extra attention this year and Chairman Bonaminio agreed to work with Todd to prepare a plan for plantings for the property. It was also suggested that the Committee get a price from Todd for just the labor to do the work as the Town may be able to get better pricing on plants if they purchase them, themselves.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Jane Presnick-Lyon to adjourned the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Town Beautification Committee at 8:35 a.m.; **SECONDED** by Mike O'Donnell.

**VOTE:** In Favor – Archibald, Bonaminio, O'Donnell, Presnick-Lyon and Vitarelli  
Opposed – None

The motion passed 5 – 0.

Respectfully submitted:

Tracey M. Kozlowski  
Substitute Recording Secretary