

**MINUTES
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
MAY 7, 2014
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
ROOM 207**

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

STAFF: Gerald L. Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator

OTHER: Councilman David Schrumm

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 by those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Ms. Vitarelli to accept the minutes of the April 2, 2014 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cacace. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Mr. Bonaminio to accept the minutes of the sign subcommittee meeting of April 16, 2014 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Presnick-Lyon. All were in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

BUSINESS

Chamber Home, Garden & Business Expo – April 12

Mr. Bonaminio began by telling the committee that the Expo went very well. He felt there was a nice showing and that the tables and decorations looked good. There was plenty of help and Mr. Dill was pleased. Ms. Archibald said she felt that if we are going to commit again next year we need better representation. Another thought was to move the date earlier or perhaps change the hours. Ms. Dillman suggested that the topic be put on the agenda for September and we can discuss it then.

Adopt-a-Spot Program

Mr. Sitko began by telling the committee that all five “spots” have been accounted for this year. He also said that the signs are not in good condition, and Creative Dimensions will be doing them over. He also said that a letter has been sent out as a reminder that all “spots” must be done by Memorial Day.

Arbor Day Activities

Mr. Bonaminio said that he was very pleased with the plantings at the three schools. He felt that all went well and that the kids were all excited about the plantings.

The trees to be appreciated all have ribbons on them in honor of Arbor Day. A suggestion was made by Ms. Dillman that trees be planted at the intersection of Country Club Road and Route 10. Currently, there is one very poor looking tree there and members suggested that it be taken down.

Ms. Dillman then asked about the Bradford Pear trees at Stop & Shop plaza. She asked if they were going to be replaced by the Crab Apple trees that were there now.

Planters

Members felt that the planters looked very good with the pansies planted in them. Abilities without Boundaries will be doing the watering for \$25 per watering. Ms. Archibald noted that once the planters are done they will not all be the same. They will have Ivy, Begonias, Cannas, Yellow Biden and tall grasses.

St. Bridget Cemetery

The committee discussed the cleaning and splitting of plants at the cemetery. Ms. Dillman said she has a friend that is interested in doing the work. Mr. Bonaminio said he would like to meet with her to see what she has to offer. Mr. Bonaminio also said he would come up with a plan for all interested parties and then a decision would be made.

Budget

Mr. Sitko said that the remainder of the budget for fiscal year 2014 would have to be spent. He said \$2500 will probably be available for plantings. Ms. Dillman suggested that if there is leftover money, perhaps trees could be purchased. Mr. Sitko, Mr. Bonaminio, Ms. Presnick-Lyon and Ms. Dillman said they would check the condition of the tree near Country Club Road and Route 10 and see about planting trees in this location.

Liaison Reports

Mr. O'Donnell reported that the parks are all up and running. He also noted that the Memorial Day Parade will take place on May 25. He also referred to the new gas vaults and felt that nothing, namely, planters, should go near them. The extra money that will be given to the town from Yankee Gas will be used for a new sign in the front of Cheshire High School listing community activities.

Other

The next meeting of the Town Beautification Committee will be held in Council Chambers on June 4 and will be televised live.

Mr. Schrumm then told the committee that the West Main Street to Jarvis Street part of the linear trail will probably be done by 2015 and that a grant has been applied for to finish the sidewalk on the north side of West Main Street. He also suggested that the committee think about using London Plain trees on Route 10. He said they are a beautiful tree but cannot be found locally.

Mr. Sitko said there would be an informal meeting, arranged by DOT, on June 18 to discuss plans for the trail.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn by Mr. O'Donnell and seconded by Ms. Dillman.

The meeting ended at 8:52 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk
Town Beautification Committee