

**MINUTES  
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
JUNE 3, 2015  
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL  
ROOM 207**

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

**ABSENT:** None

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 by Vice-Chairman Cacace.

**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

The roll was called and it was determined that 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 May 6, 2015 meeting and seconded by Mr. Meyerjack with two corrections. Those corrections being: on page 2 under Chamber of Commerce Expo, third paragraph, the last sentence beginning with "She also stated etc." should be omitted. The second correction is on page 3 under "Planters", in the fourth line the word "before" the Memorial Day weekend should be changed to "after". All were in favor.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

A letter of resignation from Mr. Bonaminio was noted by the committee. Recently, Mr. Bonaminio has decided to return to the Town Beautification Committee and this needs to be approved by the town council. Mr. Bonaminio could return next month. Members were pleased to learn of Mr. Bonaminio's return and wondered if he would once again be willing to take the chairmanship.

Also, Mr. Sitko said he has heard from the First Congregational Church members regarding the removal of 2 trees on church property and would welcome suggestions from the beautification committee on replacements.

## **BUSINESS**

### **Selection of TBC Chairperson**

Ms. Cacace recommended postponing the selection of a TBC Chairperson until next month. Mr. Meyerjack moved the motion and it was seconded by Ms. Archibald. All were in favor with one abstention.

Discussion: Members questioned whether Mr. Bonaminio was willing to continue on as chairman or if someone else would want to do the job. After some discussion, it was decided to wait until the next meeting to see what Mr. Bonaminio's decision would be.

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

Member said that all "spots" have been planted and are looking good. The one place that still needed some filling in was the area at Country Club Road because it looked a bit sparse. Mr. Sitko said he would look into the matter.

### **Planters**

Ms. Archibald said she has been looking into the condition of the planters and has started changing over the ones on West Main Street. She will probably continue this coming weekend and put more succulents and Red Begonias as she goes along. She will also be replanting the planters at town hall. Abilities Without Boundaries is once again be doing the watering. Ms. Archibald then asked who was in charge of sweeping the rock and dirt that have accumulated on the pavers near the old Ball & Socket and was told that it was up to the property owner.

### **Street Trees**

A special thank you was given to Ms. Archibald, Ms. Dillman and Mr. Schrumm for helping plant the new London planetrees at Bartlem Park.

Mr. Sitko then mentioned that the Civil War Monument in the center of the green in front of the Congregational Church will be cleaned and refurbished. A program around the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the monument is being planned.

### **Arbor Day Plantings at the Schools**

Mr. Sitko began by saying that he felt it had been a good year for the plantings and the ceremonies. The students and teachers responded well. Members were shown several pictures that were taken during the plantings. The trees were, for the most part, planted near the edge of the school properties so as not to interfere with the playgrounds etc. Members also felt that it is good for the students to participate in the plantings and be able to watch the trees as they grow.

### **Trees to be Appreciated**

No trees are on the list at the moment.

### **Town Hall Lobby**

Mr. Sitko noted that the lobby has been cleaned and the students' art work that was being displayed will remain in its current place. Mr. Milone felt that it would be good for everyone to see as they entered the building.

### **Awards**

Ms. Dillman asked members to start looking around for notable properties now and into the beginning of August so she could be taking pictures when everything is in bloom. Ms. Archibald suggested three places for awards: 1) Vespucci's on Main Street, 2) Stop & Shop, north side of building, has nice plantings, and 3) Temple Beth David for their vegetable garden in the front. She said she felt the temple's garden is environmentally good.

**Liaison Reports**

**Parks & Recreation**

Mr. O'Donnell reported that the new sign is up and should be lit and functioning in the next week. He also said he would check on grass mowing at the intersection of Country Club Road and Highland Ave. He felt the Memorial Day parade was good with a nice turnout.

**Town Council**

Mr. Sitko reported that the council is currently working on the capital budget.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. O'Donnell to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Ms. Voelker. All were in favor.

The meeting ended at 8:17 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk

Town Beautification Committee