

**MINUTES
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
JULY 1, 2015
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL
ROOM 207**

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

OTHER: Town Council Liaison David Schrumm

ABSENT: None

STAFF: Gerald L. Sitko, Economic Development Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Vice-Chairman Cacace.

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The roll was called and it was determined that a quorum was present. The meeting was started by Vice-Chairman Cacace.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Meyerjack to accept the minutes of the June 3, 2015 meeting and seconded by Ms. Presnick-Lyon with a correction from the May 6, 2015 meeting. The correction was that Ms. Dillman **said** that \$50 was acceptable for a non-profit **not** Ms. Presnick-Lyon. All were in favor.

A motion was made by Mr. O'Donnell to accept the minutes of the sign subcommittee from June 17, 2015 and seconded by Ms. Dillman. All were in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS

A letter from Judy Knott from the Cheshire Public Library Advisory Board was read thanking the Cheshire Town Beautification Committee for the donation of \$600 that will be used for the library landscaping project.

BUSINESS

Election of TBC Chairperson

A motion was made by Mr. Meyerjack to make Mr. Bonaminio chairman of the TBC. The motion was seconded by Mr. O'Donnell. All were in favor.

Mr. Bonaminio was reappointed to the TBC by the Cheshire Town Council on June 9, 2015. Mr. Bonaminio thanked everyone for their confidence in him and said he would do his best.

Adopt-a-Spot Program

Members said that the "spots" have been weeded and cared for and all are looking good to very good.

Planters

Ms. Archibald has been caring for the planters on West Main Street and said she has been experimenting with various succulents to see how they would do. Rain has also been good so they are well watered.

Street Trees

Mr. Sitko said there wasn't much to report right now. He said he'd like to have Phase II at Bartlem Park begin in the fall. Mr. Sitko then said that the Congregational Church has reached out to him and the committee for advice on planting trees on the green. Mr. Bonaminio thought perhaps some Oak, Maple or Plane trees would be good.

Mr. Schrumm added that currently there is work being done on the linear trail from West Main Street north and perhaps now would be the time to suggest types of plantings before it's all done. He said he wasn't sure what the planting design was but asked Mr. Sitko to find out. He also added that the Town of Southington has a very nicely decorated wall and thought perhaps someone could paint or decorate the back of the Lyon & Billard building that abuts the trail. Various trees and plantings for the trail were also discussed. Ms. Dillman also added that the Federated Garden Clubs would like to see White Oak trees planted and is willing to donate money toward trees but they must be on public property.

Town Hall Lobby

Members felt that the town hall lobby looked crowded. Mr. Sitko said that the World War II display would remain throughout the summer and it is very interesting and informative.

Cheshire Public Library

Some of the plantings at the library are looking sparse but the new garden in memory of Margaret Andersen will be taking on a new look as soon as all the plantings are complete. Ms. Andersen died in 2013 and since then her family and friends have taken on the responsibility of making a year round garden in her memory.

Awards

Ms. Dillman asked the committee to keep on looking for places that are worthy of an award. Ms. Cacace suggested the Sunoco gas station on Rt. 10 at the intersection of Rt. 42. Mr. Sitko suggested the restaurant Vira Rondo Osteria on Rt. 10. Ms. Archibald suggested Cheshire Academy and said their flowers are new plantings. Ms. Dillman gave the list she had to the committee and it included: Temple Beth David, Vespucci's, Campion Ambulance, the small park by Stop & Shop, Southwick and Salon 129. She then asked members to keep on the lookout for more properties and asked that they be submitted to her sometime in August so she could photograph them. Ms. Dillman also said "neighborhoods" haven't been done in a while and asked for help in find a good neighborhood to recognize. Ms. Archibald then said the Elle on West Main Street did a good job with decorating and perhaps they too could be recognized.

Ms. Archibald asked Mr. Sitko how the repairing the front of town hall was coming along and he responded by telling her that public works has applied for a Certificate of Appropriateness from the HDC because the building is in the historic district.

Liaison Reports

Parks & Recreation

Mr. O'Donnell reported that the new sign was up in front of the high school and asked how everyone liked it. He also said that vandals have been hitting the lights at the parklet on Cook Hill Road. He said that he and Mr. Ceccolini checked it out and were trying to come up with a different way of lighting the parklet. Currently, they are thinking of in ground lighting.

Mr. O'Donnell then reported that the last of the new playgrounds is being finished and still needs a fence around it.

Town Council

Mr. Schrumm stated that the town council will be starting on the Capital Budget in a week or two. They are also looking for new land acquisition.

Discussion:

Mr. Meyerjack announced to the committee that Mr. Bonaminio has received the Pierpont Edwards bronze award from the Masons for his work over the years. The committee congratulated him.

ADJOURNMENT

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

A motion was then made by Mr. O'Donnell to cancel the August meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Vitarelli. All were in favor.

The meeting ended at 8:18 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk

Town Beautification Committee