

**MINUTES  
TOWN BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
APRIL 6, 2016  
CHESHIRE TOWN HALL  
ROOM 207**

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

**ABSENT:** Dillman and Cacace

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Bonaminio called the meeting to order at 7:32a.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 Ms. Presnick-Lyon and seconded by Ms. Archibald to accept the minutes of the February 3, 2016 meeting with two corrections. The corrections are: on page 2 under St. Bridget Cemetery, the last line should read "planted trees on the green". The second correction on page 3 under Liaison Reports Mr. O'Connell should read Mr. O'Donnell. The minutes were approved with corrections.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

A letter from George Noewatne, Director of Public Works was presented to the committee. The letter is to inform all that a meeting concerning the construction of the Farmington Canal Greenway segment from West Main Street to Jarvis Streets will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at town hall. The purpose of the meeting is to give an update on the project and discuss landscaping treatments, safety concerns and to answer questions anyone might have.

Mr. Bonaminio said he would like to see the landscaping plan and the types of plantings that would be selected.

Ms. Archibald added that the State of Connecticut is providing funds for the planting of a native Oak tree somewhere in town. Mr. O'Donnell thought that perhaps the entrance of the trail would be a good idea. Mr. Bonaminio said he would speak with Mr. Noewatne about the trail plans.

## **BUSINESS**

### **Sign Application for 104 Main Street – Cheshire Public Library**

Appearing before the committee this morning were Diane Ahern, a sign specialist with Adams/Ahern Sign Solutions, Inc. of Hartford and Mary Dattilo, Asst. Cheshire Librarian. Ms. Ahern addressed the committee to explain the type of sign that is proposed for the library. She began by telling everyone that the new sign will give the library better publicity from the street and will be placed at the “in” driveway entrance. It will be stencil cut lettering, will be on a timer and will be off during hours when the library is closed. The sign will be approximately 5’ tall and 11” wide and will have a prominent address number on the sign. It will be painted with polyurethane paint that will not rust with colors to match the exterior of the library and illuminated by LED lighting. The letters will be about 8” tall. She also said that there is plenty of room at the base of the sign for plantings.

Ms. Voelker made a motion to accept the sign as proposed and was seconded by Ms. Vitarelli. All were in favor.

## **Planters**

Ms. Archibald began by telling the committee that she has placed an order for two medium size planters that will be placed in front of town hall. Because of town hall being painted in the near future, the new planters would not be planted until perhaps after Memorial Day. Ms. Archibald also said she has Pansies on order but it is too cold to plant now. If the weather cooperates, they could be planted in May. Ms. Archibald

added that Mr. Sitko has spoken to the people from Abilities without Boundaries and they have agreed to water again this year. He understands that the fee will remain the same at \$25.00 per watering. Ms. Archibald also said that on West Main Street water is available at several places.

### **Street Trees**

Mr. Bonaminio said that 7 or 8 trees have been ordered for planting at Bartlem Park but have not arrived yet.

### **St. Bridget Cemetery**

Mr. Sitko said that he met with Father Romans, pastor of St. Bridget Church, and explained to him that the committee is planning to stop caring for the old cemetery on Highland Avenue. Father Romans said it was fine with him. The committee then discussed what was going to be done with the cemetery before they handed over the care to the church. They agreed that the plants that are there would be removed and given to Parks and Recreation to be placed elsewhere in town and a very rough cedar mulch would be placed on the whole area.

Mr. Bonaminio then mentioned to the committee that the parklet near St. Peter's Church needed some help and suggested that daffodils be planted there. He felt it would make a nice presentation. Ms. Archibald suggested that we check prices in the fall and do the planting then. She added that perhaps the garden club would be interested in helping plant. Mr. Bonaminio offered his bulb auger to help with digging holes.

### **Awards Ceremony**

Mr. Bonaminio said that he felt the ceremony went very well.

### **School Plantings**

Mr. Sitko told the committee that the first planting will be held on April 29, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. at Chapman School.

Ms. Presnick-Lyon suggested that perhaps the students could plant daffodils at the schools. Ms. Archibald added that all the schools could be involved, not just elementary schools.

**Trees to be Appreciated**

Members felt that a letter should be sent to the property owner telling them about their tree being selected and asking permission to place a ribbon on it.

**Adopt-a-Spot**

Letters have been sent out and most adoptees from last year will return. Cheshire Nursery has decided not to participate this year. The “spot” that was given them last year was very hard to keep watered and they felt they couldn’t do a proper job. Bartlem Park was the “spot” and the committee decided to take it off the list temporarily and just mulch it. The “spot” adopted by Dietrich Gardens at the exit ramp of I-691 was already done. It is currently planted with gold and purple Pansies and looks very attractive.

**Liaison Reports**

Mr. O’Donnell reaffirmed that the meeting concerning the linear trail will be taking place tonight at town hall at 6:30.

**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 8:33 a.m.

Attest:

Patricia W. Kuzmak, clerk  
Town Beautification Committee