

Beautification Commission (BC)

Meeting Minutes

April 8th, 2013

9:00am, Town Hall Room B-3

Present: Suzanne Schutte, Cindy Ryan, Heather Pommernelle, Marcia Meinerth, John Schlachtenhaufen, Marianne Wadleigh, Sandy Filmer, Sabina Harris, Bob Baker (guest).

Absent: Pam Elliot, Sig Buchmayr, David May, Sandy Drimal.

Action items are noted in red.

New Member update

- MW met with the Democratic Town Committee. Next step, **SS to now ask for MM's meeting with selectmen.**
- DM will be leaving the board; he will be available to consult on the berm.
- **SS and SF both have possible interested new members; to pursue.**
- SS mentioned that the Republican & Democratic Town Committees are still advertising for volunteers.
- **HP to create flyer for us to hand out at the spring clean-up meet time, asking for members.**

Financial (MM)

- Budget update: proposed \$28,000; it's been adjusted down to \$26,000. Approved number expected in May.
- Whole Foods check still pending.
- **MM to email out updated finance forms.**

Contract for Elder (SS)

- For AAGs, watering to occur April 15 to labor day; he maintains 11 islands, and 3 on an adhoc basis.
- Watering of baskets to occur every other day.
- As included in the contract, **SD to be responsible for purchasing, supplying and instructing Elder on the use of the fertilizer and bug spray for the baskets.**

Spring clean-up: Saturday, April 27th, 8:00am

SS/MW

- 8am, participants meet behind Upper Crust Bagels for coffee and bagels, and to collect trash bags
- Confirmed participants: Senior Men's Association, Indian Princesses, Green Team, Pear Tree Point Road residents, Pear Tree Point School, Selleck's & Dunlop Woods, St. Luke's students. Katie Keith organizing neighbors for Tokeneke Road, St. Lukes (Amy), Brownies & DCA Greenhouse Group at Tilley Pond, ABC group area, Depot doing their parking lot and N. Heights train station lot, and Atria Senior Living.
- Pending participants: New Beginnings Church, Tally McDonald's group on Tilley Pond.
- BC member activities - SS will email members with where we should work.
- Publicity: HP has issued a press release to the papers and posted online; to town website as well.
- BC members can collect neon vests from SS at clean-up check-in. **MW to check cost of screen-printing 'Beautification Commission' on vests.**

Hanging baskets

- SS (for SD) confirmed 78 baskets in total will be hung on Friday, May 24th. Watering scheduled for every other day, pruning as needed. 2xmonth will fertilize and apply bug spray.
- **All to put this on their calendars.**
- **SS to confirm with George that he'll give us a few men to help with hanging the baskets.**

Adopt-A-Gardens

- CR/HP: Elder has started clean-ups of the 11 gardens he is to maintain.
- Paw Prints garden: group discussed whether to pay someone to remove the stumps in the garden area, or wait for George to remove them (he has agreed to this, when he can). Agreed to leave the removal to George. **PH to speak to Paw Prints to let them know of the delay, and MM will not invoice them.**

- SS to again verify with DOT that they will give BC approval to adopt the island and plant garden and bushes as requested.
- Varina's garden (sponsored): PH is using Complete Designs for maintenance. She'll organize thank you letters to sponsors once the garden looks good.

Berm

- Elder has started berm clean-up; he'll plant new plants DM has ordered (early June).
- Donated weeping maple: we won't move it at this point, rather save the money.
- JS mentioned that 2 weeping beeches will be planted at the berm later this month.

Other

- Exit 12 Tokeneke Road clean-up: SS/SH/SG cleaned up twice, 4 truck loads removed. This area is done.
- Discussion on meadow gardens/Mike Tschbull. Waiting for his response.
- Mowing of exit 13: Jayme Stephenson is asking P&R to mow it; George is not able to.
- George's list: Goodwives stonewall fixed, picked up trash from AAGs, help with hanging baskets, help digging hole at berm for the weeping maple when it's moved. Pending requests: move boulders at berm, mulch and topsoil available; whether they moving the heavy planters at N. Heights.
- Discussed whether we can raise funds to supplement our budget. **To discuss as a group at next month's meeting.**

Next Meeting May 13th, 9am Town Hall Room B-3