

Darien Beautification Minutes, February 10, 2010

Members Present: B. Baker, S. Bhirud, P. Elliott, M. Meinerth, C. Merritt, J. Olmsted, C. Ryan, J. Schlachtenhaufen, S. Schutte (Chair)

Membership Roster: Suzanne distributed the list of commission members as recorded by the town hall clerk's office. Updates were noted and Suzanne will forward to the clerk's office. Sabina Harris is a new member to be added to the roster.

Adopt-A-Garden: Jon discussed plans for exit 11 southbound. He noted that he has received a request from a current sponsor to have a second island. There is no problem with this if something is available. Presently, there are 4 paying sponsors.

Whole Foods: Lesley, Suzanne and John met with the site engineer and reviewed the plans that had originally been approved by Planning and Zoning. Whole Foods will plant 3 different types of trees and a pocket park is part of the landscape design. No trees will be planted across from Whole Foods. Discussion will continue.

Boy Scouts: Mothers of Boy Scouts are planning a 100 tree planting/maintenance project in town to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Boy Scouting. John noted this project will incorporate several partnerships with town organizations. The state forester will be involved in this project. Tree planting at the berm at the train station could potentially be included in the scope of the scout project. Plans are being finalized and John will keep the Beautification Commission informed.

Spring Grove Monuments: The police department is coordinating the landscape project of the monument area at the cemetery. Lesley Kroll is assisting. There are no expenses being incurred by the Beautification Commission.

Town Wide Clean: The Beautification Commission believes the efforts of the DPW could be better used cleaning up areas around town versus picking up trash door to door. Hardship cases should be able to call town hall for assistance. A letter is being sent to the selectman on this matter.

Sign Enforcement: Bob remains concerned about law enforcement of signs as it relates to discrimination (realtors vs. contractors).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20am. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 22th at 9am.

Respectfully submitted, Marcia Meinerth, Interim Secret