

City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

Date: February 15, 2021 Minutes taken by: Karen Pasquale

Location: Indian Trail Meeting Hall

Quorum determined: Meeting called to order by Bonnie Bray at: 5:02pm

In Attendance: Bonnie Bray, Nancy Disbrow, Margaret Fontaine, Sharon Lightbourne, Karen Pasquale, Ken and Lynne Geiman, Randy Jones, Tom Lombardi, Maria Lowther

Absent: Rob Thatcher

Approval of January 18, 2021 Minutes: Minutes amended, approved and seconded.

1. Committee Reports

a. **Native Plant Pollinator Garden(NPPG):** Margaret Fontaine responds for Kate Singley

- Per Kate, nothing to report.

b. **Communication Report:** Margaret

- March newsletter was done and sent.
- In this newsletter, recommendations on what to do for a “March” garden was given to Margaret from the Garden Club.
- Bonnie asks to take pictures on the next work day and send to Margaret.
- Margaret will include Gary Pethe, from the State Port Pilot, in her Monthly notice to avoid confusion of the “Southport cleanup day” with that of the “Southport Beautification Committee (SBC) work day”.

c. **Planting Planning:** Lynne Geiman

- Lynne states that next work day, March 6th, will be too early to plant. This work day will be a “staining” day at the waterfront.
- At this time, nurseries do not have much inventory of plants.
- Planting committee will meet before April work day to discuss the types of plants and what sites will get what plants.
- The Southport Fire Dept will water the plants March thru to November.

d. **Financial Report:** Nancy Disbrow

- \$1952.71 left in the budget.

2. Old Business

a. Picnic Table Construction Update: Ken Geiman

- Ken has 5 volunteers to help him sand and stain the tables.
- The tables will be put together at Garrison and brought to the sites.
- Sites are: 1 table at Kingsley, 2 at Kezia Park, 2 at Franklin Square Park.
- Franklin Square Park needs a “permanent” spot so as not to interfere with market vendors in the Spring/Summer.
- Ken wants something to be placed under the footings of the tables for stability.
- Tom Lombardi suggested the 4x8 bricks that he has and can give to Ken.
- Tourism & Parks has paid for the products for Ken to build the tables.

b. Holiday Decorations and additional garlands update: Randy Jones/Bonnie Bray

- Randy is to purchase 3 trees: Two 6.5 foot trees for Franklin Square Park, and one 5 foot tree for the Keziah Park gazebo.
- Bonnie gave Randy a wish list for additional garland.
- Bonnie suggests that we advertise for a donated Xmas tree on the Southport Facebook page. Karen Pasquale will advertise in St James.

c. February Work Day and Student Volunteer recap: Sharon Lightbourne/Bonnie

- 11 National Honor Society students from the South Brunswick High School came with Traci Leonard to work on February 6th.
- Sharon will let the school know that they are welcome to come help every month on the SBC work day.
- 38 people in addition to the students were in attendance.
- Lynne was helpful in identifying grasses and how to cut them.

d. Coastal Water Watch: Bonnie

- Coastal Water Watch was a 501c3 and dissolved.
- This organization gave their money to the city for SBC projects.
- Tom will do an inventory of signs throughout Southport that need to be repaired or replaced.
- Motion was approved to use Water Watch money to repair and/or replace signs.

3. New Business

a. Oliver's Parking Lot Bed: Bonnie/Lynne

- Oliver's parking lot bed is not attractive and disheveled with the white rocks.
- This bed will be discussed among the planting committee as how to proceed.

b. SBC Board Term Renewals and Recruitment: Bonnie

- Bonnie, Nancy, Sharon, Margaret are up for renewal in July.
- Process starts in March.
- Bonnie and Nancy will **not** renew.
- Margaret and Sharon will reconsider and let the committee know of their decision.
- Nominating committee needs to be formed.
- City will post open positions.
- Application Form to be filled out online with the city.

d. March Work Day: Lynne

- March 6th will be a staining day of the swings and benches up at the waterfront.
- Tom says that 10 more gallons of stain will be needed.
- Ken will do an inventory.

4. Adjourned: 6:10pm

Next meeting: March 15, 2021