

City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

Date: September 20, 2021 Minutes taken by: Karen Pasquale

Location: Indian Trail Meeting Hall

Quorum determined: Meeting called to order by Lynne Geiman at: 5:00pm

In Attendance: Sharon Lightbourne, Karen Pasquale, Ken and Lynne Geiman, Larry Ashley, Margaret Fontaine, Randy Jones

Absent: Rob Thatcher, Joe Fikentscher, Tom Lombardi

Guests: none

Approval of August 16, 2021 Minutes: Minutes amended, approved and seconded.

1. Committee Reports

a. Native Plant Pollinator Garden (NPPG): Larry Ashley for Kate Singley

- Larry states that there is a lot of weeding to do at the garden.
- Parts of the asphalt on the sidewalk in the garden and near the creek are coming apart. Larry is concerned of it being a walking hazard.
- Per Kate, Bee City has been approved. She now has to send the check and an update on the resolution to Randy.
- Randy has put in a work order to turn the benches around in the garden.
- Ken and Larry will check on the benches before the change will take place.

b. Communication Report: Margaret Fontaine

- Margaret has sent out the newsletter.
- She was given great pictures of the students working on the September workday.

c. Youth Outreach: Sharon Lightbourne

- Sharon states that there was a great turn out of the high school students for the last workday.
- Sharon will contact the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Eagle Scouts to see if they would like to help on the beautification workdays.
- Tracey Leonard asked Lynne to send the email announcements of the upcoming workdays only to her and not to the students. Tracey will then post the workday announcement for students to sign up for service.

d. Steward Program: Lynne Geiman

- The Steward volunteer terms run thru October 31st. Lynne will reach out to all the stewards prior to this date to see who wants to continue, resign or switch their plot.

e. Financial Report: Lynne

- Current balance is \$2556.80.

2. Old Business

a. Dog Park: Lynne

- Lynne will email Ms. Davis asking her to contact us once they have formed a committee.

b. Update on Holiday Wreath Electrical Repair: Lynne for Tom Lombardi

- Per Lynne, Tom spoke with Sam Hardwick at Mosca about fixing the lights on the 5 wreaths. Sam told Tom that he will let him know the cost but may not be able to fix them this year.
- SBC committee decided that we will meet on the October workday to look at the wreaths and maybe we can fix them ourselves.
- Randy will ask for the 5 wreaths to be delivered to the jail annex prior to the workday.

c. September 4, 2021 Workday: Lynne

- On this workday, there were 10 High school students and 22 adults.
- **Boat anchoring:** Ken, Tom, Larry and Jim put cables on the boat to hold it in place.
- Tom put holes in the boat so it will not float if flooded during a storm.
- **Staining:** Students stained the benches, picnic tables and garbage cans at Franklin Square Park.
- Per Randy, Heather has a work order in for the stage at Franklin Square Park to be rebuilt in 2022.
- **Weeding:** 1 hour was spent weeding at the JC Building, as well as time spent at the Sub Station, Peace Pole, Oliver's and the Waterfront.

3. New Business

a. Forestry Pruning Seminar: Lynne

- Lynne spoke with Scott Len from the Forestry Dept. and he would like to hold another pruning seminar on Saturday, November 13th.
- This seminar is open to the public and Margaret will post this seminar information in the next newsletter.

b. Shrub Donations to SBC: Lynne

- Sharon's neighbor on Lord Street, who prefers to remain anonymous, is currently relandscaping her yard and has donated her perennials to SBC.
- Lynne will send a thank you note to this local citizen for her donation.
- Randy will ask his dept. to possibly come up with an idea for letterhead for SBC note paper.
- Sharon, Ken and Lynne removed 10 to 12 shrubs and planted them at the John Smith Cemetery. There will be more to be removed from the neighbor's yard for SBC to replant.
- Prior to the October festival at the Cemetery, planting committee will add yellow mums to brighten it up!

c. Friends of the Library: Lynne

- Friends of the Library, have lost their volunteer who took care of the landscaping around the library.
- They have asked if we can help.
- Randy commented that the county should be involved in this project.
- Lynne asked for a motion to deny SBC's involvement in the landscaping of the library. Motion to deny was approved unanimously by committee members.

d. Holiday Tree Lighting & Decorations: Randy

- Randy asks that we meet as a committee at the jailhouse on the October workday to review all the Xmas trees, wreaths and holiday decorations.
- **Suggested sites for Xmas trees are:** 3 at Franklin Square Park, 1 at Keziah Park, 1 on the porch at Garrison Lawn, 1 at Caviness Park and 1 at Indian Head Trail.
- Tree lighting this coming Christmas at the Waterfront Park will be in person and not virtual.

e. Ideas for Upcoming Workday, 10/2/21: Lynne

- Committee suggests more weeding at the Ferry Roundabout, Nick's boat, Community Center, and pollinator garden.
- Tables at Caviness may need staining.
- Lynne will ask Tracey to post signup sheet for students to volunteer for weeding.

f. Future Project Ideas: Lynne/Randy

- Randy suggests an "Adopt a Street Program". People would sign up for various streets and report any issues ie: sidewalk problems, low hanging tree branches, road potholes etc.
- Lynne asks for ideas for Saturday workdays that would enable people to take pride in for their community.
- Sharon asks for Coastal Water Watch Sign to be repainted.
- Ken suggests that we come up with ideas for children's "old time" games outside ie: hopscotch, box ball etc.
- Larry asks if we can "spruce up" Franklin Square Park.

4. Adjourned: 6:25pm

Next meeting: October 18, 2021