

City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

Date: June 15, 2020 Minutes taken by: Kate Singley

Location: Garrison Lawn -All attending wore masks

Quorum determined: Meeting called to order by Bonnie Bray at: 5: 07 pm

In Attendance: **Randy Jones- Director of Tourism, Karen Mosteller, Alderman, Nick Kern, Bonnie Bray, Nancy Disbrow, Kate Singley, Tom Lombardi, Alderman, Margaret Fontaine**

Absent: **Sharon Lightbourne, Marjorie Jones**

Guest: **Lynne Geiman**

Approval of March Minutes: approved and seconded –with correction of Tom Lombardi, alderman, now listed as attending

1. Committee Reports

a. Native/Pollinator: Kate Singley: Weeding, trimming continues. Lynn Menches purchased 3 dwarf yaupon hollies. Lynn needs to submit receipt for reimbursement by the end of June. Sundial on hold-Jim Lightbourne has had no luck with interest from high schools –will re-visit late August/early September at fall meeting. Investigated prices for natural stepping stones: a piece-\$22.00, and \$25.00 for oval stones at Bianci. Nick Kerns suggested looking at concrete pieces at a business on 211 N. I will look into this.

c. Forestry: Karen Mosteller – states she is no longer liaison to BC– last report is that FC is still looking for a proper size tree for old courthouse-Whittler’s bench plan-still in process - possibly no tree at this point. –Karen suggests Bonnie contact Scott Len –joint conversation. Invite Alderman Lowe Davis-or check in with Scott for monthly report going forward.

d. Youth Outreach – Sharon Lightbourne - no report

e. Garden Steward Program – Lynne Geiman- the program has gotten off the ground-prior to last cleanup reached out to everyone 10 days before clean up-current list of 15 sites given to Bonnie –many sites have been weeded –now ready for planting. 2 new beds added–waterfront grasses and boat areas. Thank you to Ken Geiman for constructing bench at ITMH. –Maintenance responsibility, still being decided at this point. A lot of people take pride in their site-communication has been good- because of budget restriction stewards are responsible for maintenance /weeding/watering-made very clear in initial communication.

f. Financial report – Nancy Disbrow: Balance: \$836.86
Proposed Christmas tree purchase -\$500.00 – tentative balance: \$336.86

g. Holiday tree lighting – Bonnie Bray- BC appointed working group met in January to review effectiveness of components of SPT holiday tree lighting. Based

on current existing program, 4 options discussed-paying attention to budgetary constraints –1. Make no changes. 2. Improve existing tree-remove live electrical wire, insuring a more secure lighting installation annually would cost & possibly exceed \$6,000.00. 3. Move the ceremony – waterfront park considered as new venue- cost \$3,000-\$5,000. 4. Replace existing tree – since stage is spotlight focus on putting large tree on stage, amid the smaller trees- the whole stage would light up. The entertainment (adults & children) to be on risers. -David Truglio proposed selling a large tree for \$500.00.- -discussion follows. **Option 4 choice**-motion made by Nick Kern seconded by Margaret Fontaine.

2. Old Business

- a. Sweatshirts – Tom Lombardi – have been ordered. -Tom will let Bonnie know ordered 2 with hoods, will sell for \$20.
- b. Waterfront planting update – Nick Kern- -met with public works went from 4 locations to 2 locations –waterfront & life boat area –2 new areas mulched-remaining mulch used at ITMH and roundabout. Thank you to Nick and Tom
- c. Boat donation update – Nick Kern –vintage lifeboat is completed & anchored, receiving many positive comments on boat–Boat aptly named Sara Faircloth. Nick would like to add nautical theme sign to city/waterfront area across street from boat(permission received)--Nick will do drawing. Tom would build
- d. Indian Trail Meeting Hall (ITMH) garden bed – Tom/Lynne/Bonnie – planted -120 foot edging-peace pole added-garden club did planting and painted the bench. Plant purchases –came out of Randy’s budget- Thank you to Kate Marshall, (animal officer), who has been sweeping/watering
- e. **No April clean up –No April BC mtg. No May town clean up, No May BC mtg. due to COVID 19 restrictions –various small pop up weeding sessions were planned**

Remaining agenda follows:

- f. Committee Vacancies – Bonnie –Process of accepting applications. Chair/vice chair one of officers–interview & recommend. Plan to look into updating bylaws - **No discussion at this point -meeting called due to impending rain-**
- g. Volunteer cataloging outreach – Bonnie –
- h. May cleanup update – Bonnie –

3. New Business –

- a. June planting
- b. July cleanup

4. **Adjourn:** 6:06 pm

Next meeting: July 20, 2020 5pm

