

City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

Date: September 21, 2020 Minutes taken by: Karen Pasquale

Location: Indian Trail Meeting Hall

Quorum determined: Meeting called to order by Bonnie Bray at: 5:05pm

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

Absent: None

Guests: Kate Singley

Approval of August 17, 2020 Minutes: Minutes amended, approved and seconded.

1. Committee Reports

a. Native/Pollinator(NPPG): Kate Singley:

- Tom's birdhouse to be placed in the garden.
- Mary Friend donated 11 stepping stones.
- Kate acquired a Peace Pole from Parks and Recreation that will be placed in the garden.
- Kate will send a thank you note to Cookie (Maureen Moore), Recreation Program Specialist.
- Thursday, Sept 24th will be a cleanup day at the garden.
- Ken, Harry, Jim and Lynn Menches will do the sundial setup. Will be set in concrete and flush with the ground. Expected start date of October 1st or 2nd.
- Sharon and Margaret will create a scavenger hunt for the garden.
- Kate needs to speak with David Kelley regarding the spraying of pesticides. Per Randy, Kate should register with Public Works to not spray. Bonnie will contact David Kelley first by email and ask him to contact Kate.
- Another question for Public Works is could the garden get a dog bag post for dog cleanup?

b. Garden Steward Program: Lynne Geiman:

- It has been 1 year since the start this program. It is time for people to re-up.
- Lynne will gather information on each site regarding needs and wants.
- Some sites may have openings for this next year.

- Tom would like to reposition Nick Kern's lifeboat, currently at the corner of Caswell and Bay St., to where the Wooden Boat show takes place, at the corner of Caswell and Moore St. Current location floods easily during bad weather.
- Roundabout at Harbor Oaks has a dedicated 4 person team.

c. **Financial Report:** Nancy Disbrow:

- Current balance is \$2893.85. (attached)

2. Old Business

a. **Election of Officers:** Bonnie Bray:

- Board unanimously voted in: Bonnie Bray – President, Lynn Geiman Vice – Chair, Karen Pasquale – Secretary, Nancy Disbrow – Treasurer. (attached)

b. **September Cleanup Recap:** Bonnie Bray:

- Great cleanup day – 21 people attended.
- Lots of weeding but no planting done.
- Next beautification day will be a planting day
- Maybe will add a pop up too.
- Please leave paper collection bags even if not used. Public Works pick up the bags.

3. New Business

a. **Donation:** Bonnie Bray:

- Board unanimously voted to attach Peggy Harrison's donation to Nick's lifeboat.

b. **FY 2020-2021 Budget:** Nancy Disbow

- Nancy presented a draft budget. It was decided to consolidate several categories. Nancy to redo budget and present at the next meeting. (attached)
- Shirley Strand would a like budget for the Ferry Road Roundabout. We have agreed to by 2 pallets of mulch. We will reserve 60 mulch bags for Shirley.

c. **Holiday Tree Lighting and Decorations:** Randy Jones:

- Holiday tree lighting will be virtual.
- We will still decorate.
- Good on garland and light bulbs.
- New big fake tree will be on stage in Franklin Square Park and lit up.
- Board approved the BB&T tree being placed in the center of Whittler's Bench and Mayor will light this tree.

d. **Whittler's Bench:** Randy Jones:

- Due to storm, tree is gone.
- Forestry Committee is partnering with Beautification Committee to discuss future possibilities.

e. **Fall Planting:** Bonnie Bray and Lynne Geiman:

- Bonnie states that we will need extra popups for fall planting.
- We need to ask volunteers (stewards?) for ideas on what to plant.
- Ken has a potential project list for future beautification days. He will email this list to the committee.

f. **Lord Street Oleander Pruning:** Bonnie Bray:

- Board adopted the maintenance of the Oleander trees on Lord Street between Moore and Bay Streets. Tommy Harrelson, spokesperson for the neighbors, have offered to pay for this care for the next 3 years.
- Bonnie will alert the Public works dept that Beautification has adopted this project.

g. **Sweatshirts:** Tom Lombardi:

- Board authorized Tom to order 36 more sweatshirts from Seaway at \$15 per shirt.

g. **City of Southport Newsletter:** Bonnie/Margaret:

- Newsletter will be on the Southport website.
- Each month will highlight a different topic.
- October newsletter is already completed.
- Next newsletter will be November 1st.
- Deadline submission is the 12th of every month and to be sent to Margaret.
- Kate will send Margaret a paragraph on NPPG.

h. **Fundraisers:** Bonnie/Randy/Tom:

- Board discussed future fundraisers

i. **Tabled Business for October meeting:**

- Bylaw Amendments: Bonnie
- Financial Budget 2020-2021

4. **Adjourned:** 6:40pm

Next meeting: October 19, 2020