

City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

Date: January 20, 2020 Minutes taken by: Kate Singley

Location: Indian Trail Meeting Hall

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

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

Absent: Sharon Lightbourne, Karen Mosteller Alderman,

Guests: Lynne Geiman, Lora Sharkey

Approval of December Minutes: approved and seconded with revisions

1. Committee Reports

a. Communications- Margaret: received photo from Lynne Geiman- volunteers planting bulbs . -continue to e mail photos to Margaret

b. Native/Pollinator: Kate: workday on January 15th -general clean up, weeding, and deadheading -Tom Lombardi will cut out signs -one will hang from the main sign and 2 others will be more rustic & will show direction to the garden coming from the parking lot and bridge. One will be positioned at the Rhett St. entrance of park. Need to be sure where city property lines are before placing sign. Sharon & Jim Lightborne visited Wilson and took pictures of the human sundial

c. Forestry: Karen - no report

d. Garden Stewardship -Lynne Geiman -all spots are filled -including back ups, except sub station. Many are Beautification volunteers, some are new volunteers-want everyone to know it's a maintenance program -not theirs to redesign. Timeline -some have already started - stress communication back to Lynne- Stewards report to Lynne, copying Bonnie. Lynne going to each area to take pictures.

d. Financial: Nancy: balance: \$1,334.43 spent \$1,665.57 Randy stressed that we need to be better stewards of our spending

2. Old Business

a. January bulb planting update - Bonnie: clean up rained out -rescheduled- 1/8 removal of garland & bows around town. 1/11 -group planted 300 bulbs in about an hour- welcomed 2 new volunteers . Jail annex has been cleaned and organized. Thank you to David Kelly & crew.

b. Waterfront planting plan update - Nick: met with Heather Hemphil-plan: approximately 90 plants - proposing purple muhly grasses and miscanthus- Linwood Garden Ctr. -Wholesale Cost- roughly 7 or 8 hundred dollars. Creating & planting on day of service 4/4 Vote is unanimous to move forward.

c. Boat Donation update- Nick: Tom and Nick: 24' x 7' steel lifeboat. Boat will need some work - need a crane put on flatbed – identify costs -Nick will arrange for affordable crane cost. Possible location at corner of Caswell and Bay. Tom & Nick went & reviewed site location & setbacks with Thomas Lloyd. To be addressed at Feb/March alderman meeting.

d. Indian Trail Bed grant update – Bonnie: grant not accepted. Plan: Garden club to do planting, Beautification will maintain –covered and paid for by city-need more information before beautification takes on maintenance-need commitment for watering. Margaret will go back to garden club and report next month.

e. Volunteer hour cataloging draft press release – Bonnie: handed out 2 paragraph draft, includes name, organization and #volunteer hrs.- to appear in PILOT. Information to be directed to Margaret Fontaine via e-mail.

f. Volunteer service hours form – Bonnie: Sharon provided forms to Bonnie –Keep track of hours every cleanup –includes committee meetings, minutes, pollinator garden, etc. Use and test out for a month bring back info next meeting

g. Holiday tree lighting committee formation – Bonnie: form sub committee (ad hoc) pull from membership-working on a better solution for tree lighting- City to have BC support with tree lighting- possibly different location? Continue to discuss.

3. New Business

a. Sweatshirts – Tom: Color blue will have SPT logo priced S-M-L \$14, XL, 2x price- \$16 for BCM & sell for \$20. Tom will check out quality, and report back

b. NatureFest committee formation – Lora Sharkey & Randy Jones: Lora Sharkey –chair/contact Met as a larger group -work with the city - SPT BC, Forestry, Garden club– focus on educational element –on nature – plan to get a smaller committee to work with Lora. April 24 - 4pm. Arbor Day, speaker- April 25 - Nature Fest – no cost - tent function – possibly shuttle/transport tourists to Pollinator Garden at Lowe-White? –Bonnie will send email to all volunteers-looking for sub committee members. Send Lora an e-mail if interested. More to follow.

c. February clean up and planting – Bonnie- TBD- Mexican petunias (to be removed) at peace pole at waterfront. Kate will take picture –send to Bonnie – plants to be used elsewhere or “adopted”

4. Adjourn: 6:50pm

Next meeting: February 17, 2020 5pm

