

## City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

**Date:** October 18, 2021 Minutes taken by: Karen Pasquale

**Location:** Indian Trail Meeting Hall

**Quorum determined:** Meeting called to order by Lynne Geiman at: 5:02pm

**In Attendance:** Sharon Lightbourne, Karen Pasquale, Ken and Lynne Geiman, Tom Lombardi, Margaret Fontaine, Robert Thatcher

**Absent:** Larry Ashley, Joe Fikentscher, Randy Jones

**Guests:** Kate Singley, David Trugilo

**Approval of September 20, 2021 Minutes:** Minutes amended, approved and seconded.

### 1. Committee Reports

#### a. Native Plant Pollinator Garden (NPPG): Kate Singley

- Kate stated that the garden is a great success with many bees and butterflies.
- There will be several clean up days within the next few weeks.
- Kate said that a few men, Ken Geiman, Arthur Kaye, Zac and Jim Lightbourne, worked on the benches.
- One bench had been moved and looks great while the second bench just needs some mulch.
- The city of Southport will work to clean the brush in order for them to move the next bench to the other side.
- Bee City has been approved. Resolution to be signed by the Mayor of Southport and then Kate will mail the \$100 fee with the paperwork to Molly at the Bee City organization.
- Paperwork with fee needs to be in by the end of this calendar year.
- There will be another pollinator garden in Prices Creek, Southport.
- Our garden is to inspire more gardens to pop up throughout Southport.

#### b. Communication Report: Margaret Fontaine

- Margaret sent out notices for the next workday on Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>.
- October newsletter went out with photos of the October workday and the mention of the Pruning Seminar.
- Lynne asked if there are any legal issues with pictures of the students in the newsletter. Sharon Lightbourne said that as long as there are no names listed, it should not be a problem.
- Lynne mentioned that Facebook can be a problem with complaints from various people.

- Motion to refrain from posting SBC news on Facebook approved and seconded by the committee.
- Sharon suggested that we look into placing our notices in the Brunswick Marketplace Newspaper.

**c. Youth Outreach:** Sharon

- Sharon is waiting to hear from the Boy Scouts regarding if they would like to participate in our workdays.

**d. Planting/Garden/Steward Program:** Lynne

- Lynne states that there are approximately 21 – 25 spots for the steward program.
- She sent out an email to all current stewards to ask if they would like to continue. She has heard from around 50% and will reach out again to those that have not responded.
- Rob Thatcher is doing a great job as the steward of Kingley Park. It looks great.
- Planting committee has been trying to put perennials in most locations throughout Southport rather than annuals. This should save with future planting costs.
- At Kezia Park, Margaret said that the Garden Club asked if we would like 2 small black planter boxes.
- Lynne asked for a motion to defer decision on accepting the black boxes. Motion accepted and seconded.
- Ken and Larry Ashley rebuilt 4 wooden planter boxes this past summer at Kezia Park.

**e. Financial Report:** Lynne

- Current balance is \$2556.80 as of 10/7/21.

**2. Old Business**

**a. Holiday Decorations:** Lynne

- Holiday decorations will be pulled out and reviewed over the next few weeks.
- We will start with the tress, followed by review of the wreaths.
- Committee will meet at 8am at the jailhouse on October 26<sup>th</sup> to pull out all the Xmas trees and review the branches and lights.
- Lynne will contact Randy Jones to set up a time to look at the wreaths and garland.

- With a few pop ups, we will get Southport all decorated for Xmas prior to the tree lighting.

**b. October 2, 2021 Workday:**

- Lynne states that there were 23 people and 3 students present.
- Roundabout weeding was done. The grasses came back and are looking great.
- Students did a great job weeding at the Waterfront.
- Weeding was done at Nick's boat. The anchors to keep the boat in place, were covered so as not to be visible.
- Waterfront Park will have some changes and the Planting Committee will meet to discuss.

**c. Pruning Seminar: Lynne**

- Seminar date is November 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Lynne does not yet have a time, but will email the Forestry Dept to find out.
- Forestry Dept will advertise the exact details of this seminar for the public.

**d. Shrub Donations to Beautification: Lynne**

- Lynne said that the donated shrubs were replanted at the John Smith Cemetery and the JC Building.

**e. John N. Smith Cemetery: Lynne**

- This cemetery is in the National Registry of Historical Society.
- A ceremony was held on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- SBC was given a special thanks for always helping with the care of the cemetery grounds.
- Construction of 10 benches within the cemetery was done by Ken, Jim and Sharon.
- Cemetery received money from AARP and SBC was reimbursed for the wood purchased for these benches.

### 3. **New Business**

#### **a. Ideas for Upcoming Workday 11/6//21: Lynne**

- New tables were approved by City Hall – 1 by City Hall and 1 by the tennis courts.
- Ken, Jim and Sharon did preliminary work on benches and beautification volunteers will assemble on a workday.
- Heather gave us approval for 3 new cement bases for garbage cans: 1 located in Franklin Square Park, 1 located at the Yacht Basin, 1 located in front of Ocean Outfitters.
- Tom Lombardi will start work on the rain cover tops for the garbage cans.
- One picnic table at the Waterfront Park that wobbles will be repaired.

#### **b. Future Project Ideas: Lynne**

- Lynne met with Heather to discuss if any areas need work i.e. vines to be pulled or weeding.
- Heather told Lynne that maybe Taylor Field could use some work.
- Franklin Square needs work to be done.
- Adopt a Street is still a possible plan to implement.
- Tom, Ken, Jim and Sharon suggest possible ideas to fix up the play area behind the recreation center for the children.
- Whittler's Bench is a future project.

4. **Adjourned:** 6:16pm

**Next meeting:** November 15, 2021