

City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

Date: November 15, 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, Tom Lombardi, Margaret Fontaine, Robert Thatcher, Larry Ashley, Randy Jones

Absent: Joe Fikentscher

Guests: None

Approval of October 18, 2021 Minutes: Minutes amended, approved and seconded.

1. Committee Reports

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

- NPPG, per Larry, will be listed as a “non-mosquito spraying” site like other Bee City locations.
- Therefore, per Tom, this resolution has been resolved and it is expected that the Mayor of Southport will sign the papers for certification in December.
- Dave and the City of Southport Parks crew cleaned up the southside of the NPPG walkway.
- Larry states that this cleanup enables the 2 benches to be placed so that they face the garden from 2 new locations ... outside of the east and south sides of the NPPG.
- On Thursday, November 18th, a pop-up work day, mulch will be placed under the 2 benches and along the inside pathway providing a finished look and help reduce weeds.

b. Communication Report: Margaret Fontaine

- Margaret sent out pictures of the new picnic table and pictures of the Coastal Water Watch (CWW) sign which was freshly painted.
- Notices were sent to the Southport periodical.

c. Youth Outreach: Sharon Lightbourne

- Sharon has contacted the local Boy Scouts to see if they want to volunteer on workdays.
- Rob Thatcher has reached out to the Eagle Scouts and waiting to hear from them.

d. Planting/Garden/Steward Program: Lynne

- Lynne states that the Steward Program still has a few more sites that need to be filled.
- People are starting to notice that the various areas are looking very well.
- At the Waterfront site, the rosemary will be removed after the first frost kills the flowers. The Planting Committee will meet to review what other evergreen plants could replace the rosemary.

e. Financial Report: Lynne

- Current balance is \$2556.80.

2. Old Business

a. Pruning Seminar: Lynne

- Twelve people met at the Northwood Cemetery on November 13th, Saturday.
- Scott showed how to prune Live Oak trees.
- Scott will put in a work order to remove debris.

b. Holiday decorations/tree lighting: Lynne/Randy Jones

- Lynne states that the holiday decorating was done in stages.
- Lights were tested and 40 – 50% of the lights did not work.
- 200 feet of new lights are needed for the Waterfront.
- City put up the Garrison Lawn tree and the tree located at Whittlers Bench.
- Ken fixed all of the broken strands of lights on 5 wreaths.
- On November 16th, light polls will be marked with pink ribbon as to where the wreaths will be hung.
- Also on November 16th, Joe, Leslie and Lynne will get together to place the garlands in town.
- Wednesday, November 17th, wreaths will be brought to the marked poll locations and committee will fluff the wreaths before they are hung.
- Lynne and Randy bought tubs to keep Christmas decorations organized when they are taken down.
- Per Randy, on November 26th, Friday, at 6pm the tree lighting will occur and the Mayor will do the honors.
- Prior to the tree lighting on 11/26, children from Trinity Church will sing Christmas songs and the Mayor will read the Night Before Christmas book.

- At this event, the SBC will serve hot chocolate and cookies to those in attendance starting at 5:30pm.
- The lightening ceremony will stream live on Facebook.

c. November Workday 11/6/21: Lynne

- This workday was cancelled due to inclement weather.
- Mulch around Nick's boat has washed away and will need to be replaced.

d. Pop Ups: Lynne

- Ken, Larry, Rob, Jim and Sharon worked on picnic tables.
- CWW sign was sanded and painted.

e. Garbage Can Surround Tops: Tom Lombardi

- Tom, Ken, and Jim will meet to see if they can improve on the surround tops of the cans.
- They will wait until after the holidays to resume building the tops.
- Every top will be custom made due to different sizes of these garbage cans.
- City will pay for the items that are needed to build these tops.

3. New Business

a. Ideas for Upcoming Workday 12/4/21: Lynne

- 12/4/21 workday is cancelled.
- Next workday will be 1/8/22.

b. December 2021 meeting: Lynne

- December SBC meeting is cancelled.

4. Adjourned: 5:38pm

Next meeting: January 17, 2022