

City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

Date: October 17, 2022 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, Lynne Geiman, Ken Geiman, Margaret Fontaine, Robert Thatcher, Larry Ashley, Randy Jones, Karen Pasquale, Margaret Fontaine, Sharon Lightbourne

Absent: Joe Fikenstscher, Tom Lombardi, Scott Bushman

Guests: None

Approval of September 19, 2022 Minutes: Minutes amended, approved and seconded.

1. Committee Reports

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

- Larry stated that this coming Wed, 10/19, there will be a pop-up workday to clean up the pollinator garden. Possibly for the next few Wednesdays to get the garden ready for winter.
- Topsoil needs to be added in the garden.

b. Communication Report: Larry

- Nothing new to report.

c. Youth Outreach: Sharon Lightbourne

- Sharon stated that she has not heard from the High School coordinator for student volunteers.

d. Planting/Garden/Steward Program: Lynne

- Shirley Synder is moving from the area, so there will be 3 new stewards for the Ferry roundabout area – Virginia Bushman, Kathy Copley, and Susan Burgess
- The mealy bugs on the muhly grasses will be treated after the grasses are cut in the winter.
- Randy stated that the city now has a street cleaner. Ken Geiman asked if we can now sweep dead leaves into the street curb and Randy said yes.
- Larry spoke about the salt water damage to the Waterfront due to Hurricane Ian.
- Karen asked if Randy can order gray rocks for the Oliver's parking lot spot.

- Randy stated that the city is still interested in installing a compass rose at Whittlers Bench. Karen will email a picture with company information of the compass rose she has at her house.
- Margaret asked if we can plant new plants at Kezia Park for upcoming winter festivals. Lynne would like to plant white and burgundy pansies.

e. Financial Report: Lynne

- Current balance is \$3,000.00.

2. Old Business

a. October Workday Recap, 10/1/22: Lynne

- Workday was all about clean up after Hurricane Ian.
- The following areas were cleaned up by the volunteers: Waterfront, JC Building, Smithville Cemetery, Garrison Lawn, Kingsley Park.

b. Signs for Garden Spots: Rob Thatcher

- Rob asked ASD for prices on plastic signs.
- 3 sizes for pricing – 2 ½" x 6", 12" x 18", 18" x 24".

c. Jail Annex Update: Lynne

- Shelving has been completed for storage.
- There is a rat problem at that annex.
- Lynne brought over plastic store bins to protect items from the rats.

3. New Business

a. Upcoming Workday, 11/5/22: Lynne

- Clean up at the Ferry Roundabout.
- Cut back the vines at Steade Bonnet.
- Clean up historical markers.

b. Nature Fest and Lecture Series: Lynne

- On Sept. 27th, Randy and Lynne attended a meeting regarding lecture series.
- The idea is to have a specific lecture on the 4th Tuesday of every month leading up to Nature Fest.

- Kate will be a lecturer on February 23rd, 2023 and discuss the pollinator garden.
- Randy with Alayna Dail are willing to help with publicity for each monthly lecture and with publicity for Nature Fest.

c. Holiday Plans: Randy

- Randy will organize a schedule for SBC to test tree lights and wreath lights.
- Starting around the 4th and 5th of November, we will have several pop ups for Xmas preparation.

d. Future Project Ideas: Lynne

- Lynne asked the committee to think of future projects.
- One plan is to stain the benches and tables at the various park sites.
- The Dept of Southport is working on a “master plan” for the Waterfront i.e plastic tables and chairs instead of the wooden ones that are currently there.
- Randy would like to start with Kezia Park, which is smaller than the Waterfront, and use it as an example for future planning.
- Larry asked that we think of “coastal” colors for re-staining.

e. Other Business: Lynne

- The auction for the Historical Markers will take place in May 2023. No specific date has yet to be set.
- The auction will be done online.
- Leading up to the auction, the markers will be on display throughout the town of Southport.
- SBC will get 50% of the proceeds, but no money will be exchanged. Instead, the Historical Society will purchase product for SBC.

4. Adjourned: 5:50pm

Next meeting: November 21, 2022