

City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

Date: April 17, 2023 Minutes taken by: Karen Pasquale

Location: Indian Trail Meeting Hall

Quorum determined: Meeting called to order by Lynne Geiman at: 5:00pm

In Attendance: Margaret Fontaine, Ken and Lynne Geiman, Robert Thatcher, Joe Fikentscher, Randy Jones, Scott Bushman, Karen Pasquale, Sharon Lightborne, Larry Ashley, Tom Lomardi

Absent: None

Approval of March 20, 2023 Minutes: Minutes amended, approved and seconded.

1. Committee Reports

a. Native Plant Pollinator Garden (NPPG): Larry

- Nothing to report.

b. Communication Report: Larry

- Nothing to report.

c. Youth Outreach: Sharon Lightbourne

- Nothing new to report.

d. Planting/Garden/Steward Program: Lynne

- The plant committee (4 board members) will meet to review status of our current perennials at our assigned sites.
- Larry took out the creeping rosemary plants located at Mary's garden site.

e. Financial Report: Lynne

- Current balance is \$2348.16.

2. Old Business

a. Update: Wreaths and Flags: Joe

- All of the poles in town have been picked for either Christmas wreaths and banners.
- Joe has given the list with location assignments to Randy.
- The banners will be hung from January to May by the Blue Star Moms, May to October banners from Up Your Arts and November to December with be the Xmas wreaths.
- Karen will send out an ad to the St James community in September requesting donated Xmas trees for the holidays. Criteria for the trees is that they have pre-lite lights in working order and no taller than 6 feet.

b. Update: T- Shirts: Scott

- Scott ordered the t-shirts.
- He may not be able to get the v-neck light blue t-shirts for women.
- The invoice was given to Randy for the order.

c. Update: Sign Painting on City Signs: Ken

- Ken, Rob, Scott and Karen will meet Friday, April 21st, at 8:30am to paint a few city signs.
- A sign at the back of the John Smith cemetery, still needs to be painted.
- A concrete ground sign by the Waterfront area also needs to be re-painted.

d. Update: Marsh Walk Sign Repair: Lynne

- Larry and Ken did a great job with this repair. The sign looks wonderful.

e. Update: History Marker Auction: Lynne

- The History Marker Auction is set to be held on 5/31/23, located on the Garrison Lawn. The time is to be announced but per Randy will be around 4pm.
- The online auction will go from 5/31 to 6/21.
- On the Southport Facebook page and the Historical Society site, Mary Ellen will have a video talk about each marker.

f. April Workday recap – 4/21/23: Lynne

- 22 people attended.
- Due to the wind, staining the tables, benches and swings was postponed.
- Approximately 4 signs around Smithville were painted as well as the jail sign.
- The sign outside the fence at John Smith Cemetery was painted.
- Weeding was done around the Peace Pole post as well as the Community building and Ferry roundabout.
- At Caviness Park, the volunteers placed mulch and the trench was dug.

3. New Business

a. May workday: Lynne

- We will stain the benches, tables and swings.

b. Historical Society – Brick laying: Tom

- Tom asked for help on 4/25/23 to lay commemorative bricks by the visitor center. There are approximately 70 bricks.

c. Arbor Day 4/28 & Nature Fest 4/29: Lynne

- April 28th is Arbor Day run by the Forestry Dept and will be held at Taylor Field.
- April 29th is Nature Fest Day and will also be held at Taylor Field. The festival will be held from 8:30am to 12:30pm.
- SBC will have a table with handouts and seedlings.
- The aquarium will be there with a small animal display.
- Kate Singley will have tours at the Native Plant and Pollinator Garden (NPPG).

d. Beautification Membership: Lynne

- For SBC board members, a 3 year term, as opposed to 2 year term, will be adopted by the City of Southport at the next meeting in May.
- There will be 2 spots open and a public notice will be posted for those who would like to apply for the board positions.
- Joe and Larry are planning to re-apply for their current membership positions.

e. Taylor Field Picnic Tables and Benches: Randy and Ken

- Heather spoke with Randy to ask SBC if we would participate in building 6 picnic tables and 6 benches for Taylor Field.
- The city would supply the wood and is only asking for donated labor.
- This work could be done possibly in June, as a SBC pop-up workday.

4. Any Other Business

a. None

4. Adjourned: 5:46pm

Next meeting: May 15, 2023