

City of Southport Beautification Committee Minutes

Date: February 19, 2024 Minutes taken by: Karen Brennan, typed by Karen Pasquale

Location: Indian Trail Meeting Hall

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

In Attendance: Ken and Lynne Geiman, Robert Thatcher, Larry Ashley, Joe Fikentscher, Scott Bushman, Karen Brennan, Allayna Dail

Absent: Karen Pasquale, Karen Mosteller

Guests: None

Approval of January 15, 2024 Minutes: Minutes amended, approved and seconded.

1. Committee Reports

a. Native Plant Pollinator Garden (NPPG): Lynne

- Two people have stepped up to head the pollinator garden.
- They are Lynn Menches and Leslie Friedrich.
- They will update the webpage on the City of Southport's page.
- The committee discussed how to better advertise in order to get more volunteers for NPPG and SBC.

b. Communication Report: Larry Ashley

- The SBC webpage on the City of Southport site needs to be refreshed and updated to reflect better what we do as a committee.

c. Planting/Garden/Steward Program: Lynne

- The committee discussed what to plant and how to keep the plantings watered in the containers in front of the Southport Community Building.
- Allayna said that there is still no one in charge of that building.

e. Financial Report: Lynne

- Balance as of 2/29/24 is \$1888.59 plus the \$1407.64 Historical balance.
- Allayna submitted our budget request.

2. Old Business

a. February Workday – 2/3/24: Lynne

- It was a successful day with 15 people in attendance, for a total of 40 manhours of work.
- Grasses and plants were trimmed and general cleanup was done in a number of areas.

b. Map Update: Joe

- Nothing new to report since last update.
- Rotary Club will decide if they will take care of the map.

c. Cleats Project: Joe/Scott

- Scott and Joe will paint the cleats when the weather is appropriate.

d. Yacht Basin Boat: Lynne

- The painting of the boat will wait until the weather is appropriate.
- We will need to apply rust encapsulating paint first.

e. Town Tree Lights: Lynne

- Moving forward, any issues with the holly tree lights will have a specific procedure. An email should be sent to Lynne with that particular issue. She will then forward the email to Allayna who will create a work order for Public Works. This will prevent any duplicate work orders.
- When sending an email to Lynne, committee members should please list the street name, building location or other landmark and the specific issue.
- There was some discussion on whether we want to change the lights to color, or to a warmer white bulb.
- A suggestion was to change one tree to a warmer white bulb and compare it to the bright white.
- Allayna will check to see if there is a city ordinance for the light color.
- There was also a discussion on whether to replace the lights on the Mayor's Christmas tree.

3. New Business

a. Waterfront Benches and tables cleaning: Lynne

- Allayna will ask Public Works if they will undertake the cleaning without using pressure washers.
- If they cannot, SBC will include the cleaning on a workday.
- The main issue is for the public to stop feeding the birds at Waterfront Park.
- There was discussion on possible signs stating no feeding, but no decision was reached.

b. March Workday – 3/2/24: Ken

- Staining of tables and benches and painting of poles and caps.
- The above mention is weather dependent.
- It was suggested that the poles need to have rust encapsulating paint applied before painting.

c Future Work: Lynne

- Allayna will look into whether we can replace the stones at Oliver's parking lot spot with cement.
- There was some discussion if we could install an anchor or some other nautical design on the cement.
- JC Building has a large garden area around the sign that is difficult and time consuming to maintain.
- It was suggested to install a brick wall and plant grasses in a shallower bed or install a 6x6 timbers instead of brick
- We need to create a design for the bed and submit for city approval.
- The JC sign will be replaced at some point in the future.

d. Any Other Business: Lynne

- We will be purchasing a pallet of mulch.
- The storage building has been cleaned out and the rodent population seems to be under control.
- The shelves need to be cleaned and disinfected.
- The 2-sided map at the Waterfront Park needs to be replaced and the white posts should be repainted, but we need permission from the city first.

4. Staff Liaison Comments:

- No comments.

5. Board Liaison Comments:

- No comments.

6. Adjourned: 6:12pm

Next meeting: March 18, 2024