

Approved JH
4/17/23

STONINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
Regular Meeting
March 20, 2023
Stonington Police Department

Members present: Stacy Cassata, Carole Nossek, Kit Hartford, Julie Holland, Eric Beverly and Ann Marie Castagno-Clark

Guests: Cindy Moore

- 1) Call to Order
 - a. Co-Chair Stacy Cassata called meeting to order at 5:00PM.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Approval of minutes January 30, 2023
 - a. Motion made by Julie Holland; seconded by Ann Marie Castagno-Clark; motion approved and carried.
- 4) New Business
 - a. Correspondence
 - i. Email from Adrienne Albotelli (Davis Standard) - Re: their volunteer organization would like to help plant and possibly purchase trees for Spellman Park.
 - ii. Email from Laura Metzger (Stonington Garden Club) - Re: Planting projects their committee can help out on Arbor Day.
 - iii. Email from Greg Powell (Reforest the Tropics) - Re: Assistance offered for environmentally-focused volunteer projects.
 - iv. Email from Stonington Non-Profits - Re: 3rd Annual Stonington Spring Fest on May 6th.
 - b. Current Fundraisers
 - i. Stacy Cassata announced that the Rain Barrel Fundraiser is going well. (9) barrels have been purchased to date and the fundraiser will run until June 19th. Pick up scheduled for June 28th at Stonington Human Services. Carole Nossek stated that the Big Y Bag fundraiser was a success earning the committee \$110 toward future plantings.
 - c. New Officer Position
 - i. Stacy Cassata made a motion to nominated Julie Holland for the open secretary position; seconded by Ann Marie Castagno-Clark; motion approved and carried.
- 5) Old Business
 - a. Spring Plantings
 - i. Carole Nossek announced that the Stonington Police Station, Pawcatuck Memorials and Pots in Donahue Park were planted with pansies this past week. Eric Beverly reported that the Route One island was mulched. Committee members thanked both members. Julie Holland reported she will be planting the pots at the schools the

following weekend, with the planters on the bridge(s) returning by April 3rd. Eric Beverly stated that plants will be installed in the planters before the Easter Holiday.

- b. Earth Day 2023
 - i. Julie Holland announced that volunteers from Davis Standard will be doing a town wide clean up on Friday April 21st and asked that if any member would like to plan another clean up, to please let her know.
- c. Arbor Day 2023
 - i. Julie Holland announced that Arbor Day is Friday April 28th and the SHS Voice Program will be providing volunteers to plant tree saplings in Spellman Park. Holland also announced that she will be meeting with the Department of Public Works to finalize the trees that will be planted this spring in local neighborhoods and in Spellman Park. Holland asked for Eric Beverly's assistance with these projects.
- d. Community Tree Planting Program Discussion
 - i. Kit Harford announced that the committee needs to decide which direction they would like a future Tree Planting Project to go before they can continue in writing a grant with Sustainable CT. Julie Holland suggested that a meeting with members of the Board of Selectmen would be helpful on how to proceed. Carole Nossek suggested reaching out to some local residents that have shown interest in supporting the committee and have experience in writing grants.
- e. Allocation of Funds
 - i. Motion was made by Julie Holland; seconded by Stacy Cassata to approve funding to support pollinating plantings in Downtown Pawcatuck; mulch for the Willow Street island project in Mystic; and trees for Spellman Park; motion approved and carried.
- f. Future Fundraisers
 - i. Stacy Cassata announced she has contacted local restaurants to host Dine to Donates. Further information to follow.
- g. Safety / Lighting Downtown Pawcatuck
 - i. Tabled for next meeting.
- h. SBC Membership and Volunteers 2023
 - i. There are currently (3) open positions on the committee.
- j. Town Grant Discussion
- k. Comments from the public
 - i. None

6) Meeting Adjourned at 6:01PM

- a. Motion made by Stacy Cassata; seconded by Julie Holland; motion approved and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Holland
Committee Member

