

TOWN OF STONINGTON

152 Elm Street • Stonington, CT 06378

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
March 20th - 5:00pm
STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES



Minutes

Present: Julie Holland, Danny Oliverio, Eric Beverly, Ayo Bryant, Carole Nossek, Kate Rotella, Antonio Mastroianni, David Wade, Shaun Mastroianni

Guest: Elisa Whitman (Stonington School System), Michelle Kutz (Stonington Garden Club), Carlene Donnarummo (citizen), Nicolas Gerzani (student)

Absent: None

1. Call to Order

Julie Holland called the meeting to order at 5:01PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of minutes

- a. Motion to approve minutes for February 13, 2017 meeting by Eric Beverly,
seconded by Antonio Mastroianni, all in favor, motion approved.
- b. Motion to approve minutes for March 6, 2017 meeting by Carole Nossek,
seconded by Eric Beverly, all in favor, motion approved.

4. Comments from the Public

- a. Charlene Donnarummo brought up concern about the color of the replacement
lights not consistent with the existing lights. She mentioned that a few of the
lights are still out.

5. Old Business

- a. Update on projects

- Pawcatuck Trees- Trees were discussed about the height of two trees in front of Mia's Prime Time, also the height of one tree in front of Mel's Downtown Creamery.
- Downtown is Blooming Campaign report- More pots have been purchased and there will be about 30 pots throughout Pawcatuck and Westerly. The pots should be planted sometime in May. The next dine to donate to support this campaign is at 84 Tavern on March 23 from 3-9PM
- Dine to Donate- We have collected \$150 from Dog Watch and \$75 from Water Street Café.
- Elm Tree Correspondence from Mystic Garden Club- Reviewed recommendations from the Mystic Garden Club. Eversource is going to remove the stump and plant a tree around April 28th. Danny Oliverio will confirm the date as we get closer to the planting. Shaun Mastroianni will take on the management of this project to determine what will be done with the rest of the island.
- Pawcatuck light post update- Eversource is getting back to the town. They will be replacing the lamps. The committee and public want the lighting to be antique lights like what is already there. Request will be forwarded to the BOS.
- Misc- Irrigation system for the Veteran's Park has been endorsed by the committee to send to the selectmen.
- Misc- Taugwonk Road request for cleanup was started this week. The fence removal still needs to be researched to determine ownership.
- Implement Stonington Rotary Grant- Eric Beverly will get approval for landscape plan from Human Services Director Leanne Theodore.
- Implement Stonington Garden Club Grant- Elisa Whitman (Stonington High School Science teacher) gave an update to the committee about her involvement of the two trees being planted at the high school in the court yard. Elisa Whitman, Carole Nossek, Julie Holland will set up a meeting with Bill King to discuss implementing the project. Watering of the trees over the summer was discussed and the Stonington Garden Club will be paying a stipend for someone to complete the watering. They would like the trees to be planted this Spring. Elisa Whitman also discussed the student involvement in the garden beds located at the high school.
- Bridge planters- The planters have been requested to go back on the bridge around April 17th at which time the first plant sponsor, Mystic Pet Shop will complete the first planting. The second plant sponsor, Stone Acres Farm, will plant in May.

6. New Business

- a. Review notes from March 6th Walking Tour- There was a brief discussion about the walking tour. Discussion of Korean Memorial cleanup, possible gardens under the bridge, ideas about alternative lighting directly under the bridge, Citizen Bank property, murals, and Donahue Park future family concerts and gatherings working with Human Services.

- b. Climate Change Task Force- Climate Change correspondence was discussed with no action taken.
- c. Tree Warden Report- List of trees that have been tagged was discussed.
- d. Sponsorships- Discussion about how to recognize those that have donated was discussed, possibly putting a thank you on the Human Services page. No action was taken.
- e. Duck Race- The Duck Race will be April 29th and the committee is requesting that the town use a higher grade of mulch instead of the mulch from the town dump. The committee would like a reminder to go Public Works.
- f. Sidewalk Maint Plan- There was discussion of sweeping the down town streets in Mystic and Pawcatuck, including the weeds issues. No action was taken
- g. PTO Middle School Cleanup- April 22 at 9 AM there will be a cleanup at the Pawcatuck Middle School. Bill King (School Facility Director) has requested the usage of the leaf truck and t-5 truck. This committee will provide volunteers.
- h. Historic Signs- Ayo Bryant presented on Historic signs. There is one sign at the town garage for Mechanic Street that needs to be put back up. There was discussion of how to make the area more presentable. Ayo Bryant is going to research further about where the signs have come from and how to replace them.
- i. Correspondence- All correspondence was reviewed. There was correspondence from the management company for the Citizen Bank property and at this time they will not grant permission to place a sign on the corner of the lot or plantings.
- j. Review committee members- Shaun Mastroianni will review the committee member list and provide Julie Holland with updates and open positions
- k. Mission statement- Danyy Oliverio, Julie Holland, and Shaun Mastroianni will review/create a mission statement for the next meeting. In addition, the Strategic Plan Draft will be reviewed in hopes of a final draft approval.
- l. Misc- Korean Memorial needs to be power washed and cleaned up.

7. Adjournment

Eric Beverly moved to adjourn, seconded by Antonio Mastroianni, all in favor,
meeting adjourned at 6:20PM