

TOWN OF STONINGTON

152 Elm Street • Stonington, CT 06378

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING



September 18, 2017
STONINGTON HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES

Present: Julie Holland, Danny Oliverio, Carole Nossek, Ayo Bryant, Leanne Theodore, Beverly Dodd

Absent: Eric Beverly, Antonio Mastroianni, Shaun Mastroianni

1. Call to Order

- Julie Holland called the meeting to order at 5:01pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of minutes

- Ayo Bryant made a motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting, seconded by Carole Nossek. All were in favor. The motion passed.

4. Comments from the Public

- No comments from the public.

5. Old Business

a. Update on projects

- The Historic sign on the corner of Rte. 1 and Mechanic Street has been approved for location at that spot. The next town meeting to finalize placement is Sept 18.
- Stonington Gardens donated 15 mums that were planted with the Cadets from the USS Cole at the Pawcatuck sign island. Thank you Cadets!
- Discussion continued on the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center landscaping project. Low maintenance is a must. Julie will speak to the new director to see what the needs of the PNC are and how we can work together to create a welcoming site. The overgrown bushes surrounding the J. Piver flagpole area were removed by the Highway Dept. and stone and small plantings were installed.
- ~~The Vietnam Park in Old Mystic needs attention. Danny is collaborating with the Fire Chief for tree removal of a dead tree. It was mentioned that a lighted holiday tree might be a festive addition to that location.~~
- The Korean War Memorial needs a plan for landscaping. The Beautification Committee is searching for a landscape designer to form a united design

throughout town (Pawcatuck, Mystic, Stonington). There is also a dead tree at this location that needs removal by the Highway Dept. Danny will coordinate that project.

- The Wall Dogs created a stunning mural at 38 West Broad Street. The overgrown bushes near Citizen's Bank obscures the mural. There is a plan in the works to highlight that gateway to Donahue Park in the spring. We are looking for funding and a plan at this time.
- The Rte 1 island project is reported on hold as Shaun is talking to the State for input.
- Matthew's Park has no progress at this time.
- The East Borough Pocket Park plan has been brought forth to the Borough Burgess and Warden. They are contacting a landscape architect for design ideas.
- Bricks and Murals was a huge success in both Pawcatuck and Westerly. Ayo Bryant worked very hard to bring this project to fruition. The murals are beautiful, attendance was high, and the weather cooperated. The artists reported that they enjoyed the dinners, hospitality, and that the project was well planned and carried out.

6. New Business

A. Allocation of funds

- We do have a small balance in our budget. We are also expected to add some money from the Cove Ledge Liquor Store fundraiser. We are looking for grant opportunities with local groups to help fund projects. Ayo mentioned that Charter Oak Credit Union has a matching gift program that might prove useful. Ayo and Julie will explore these options.

B. Correspondence

- Thank You notes need to be sent to a few local businesses for donations.
- The SHS will work with Beautification to market the ideas and projects through a newsletter and magazine form. It was suggested to post on the Stonington Community Forum as well, to increase exposure of past, current, and future projects. Also to solicit possible help for these projects.

C. Sponsorship and future grants

- Julie and Ayo will actively be writing grants to help fund future projects.

7. Comments from the Public

- Adopt-A-Spot approach was mentioned for future projects. The median at Exit 91 would be a great place to showcase this initiative.
- Security issues in downtown Pawcatuck discussed.

8. Adjournment

- Ayo Bryant moved to adjourn, it was seconded by Carole Nossek. The meeting was adjourned at 5:48pm.