

Wilmington Beautification Committee
February 27, 2012

Committee Members Present:

Lee Schindel, Mary Wright, Len Chapman, Kit Cincotta, Carlotta Gladding, Alice Greenspan, Katy Little, Scott Murphy, Fred Skwirut, Celia Weissman

Committee Members Absent: None

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Lee.

Minutes

Fred moved to accept the minutes of the February 13, meeting. The motion was seconded by Mary and passed.

Welcome Scott Murphy

Lee welcomed Scott Murphy and asked members of the committee to introduce themselves. Lee explained that the Town Manager is a member of the committee and serves as the liaison to the Select Board. At our next meeting, Scott and Lee will set up a meeting with Scott, Lee, and Mary to review the committee's mission, accomplishments and history.

South Main Street

Lee explained that the Beautification Committee would like to remove weed trees and debris from the town owned property across from the library but that we had been unable to determine the property boundaries. She reported that Dick Joyce researched the parcel and determined that there isn't a deed defining the property boundaries. It will require a survey costing approximately \$5,000 to establish the boundaries. He suggested that the town obtain written authorization from the adjoining land owners authorizing the town to enter and clean up their property.

Fred will contact the property owners informally to explain what the committee would like to do. If the adjoining property owners are in agreement, Lee will draft a letter to the land owners for the Select Board's approval. Scott will advise the Select Board

Summer Flower Program / Barrels

Fred reported that five unused barrels are at the transfer station reducing the number of replacement barrels to six. The cost of the barrels will be taken from the landscaping budget.

Mary reported that Mary Pike Sprenger will plant and maintain the barrels at the same cost as last year. They are meeting this afternoon to finalize the plant selection and determine the exact price for the plants. Katy will attend the meeting.

Bemis will require a \$4,000 deposit for the plants in March. Three thousand dollars is available from Plant Deposit Loan Fund. The committee agreed to transfer \$1,000 from the Capital fund to the Plant Deposit Loan Fund.

Lee noted that in the past an RFP for the summer flower program has been prepared every two years but Interim Town Manager Paul Myers had advised that it would not be necessary this year. Scott advised that the generally accepted timing for this type of RFP is every three years rather than every two.

River Bank Park Signage

A large sandwich sign and banner identifying parking location for the Ice Fishing Derby were installed at River Bank Park over the weekend. After some discussion, the committee agreed that due to the number of special events held in the valley signs and banners should not be permitted in the park. Scott advised that he will review the signage ordinance.

Village Restoration / Development

Mary reported that committees working various restoration and development initiatives, Trails, Lighting, Benches, etc., have been working independently but will be meeting this afternoon to begin consolidating their reports in preparation for making recommendations to the Select Board. FEMA will be available help identify grants to fund projects, but will not provide any money.

Alice advised that she and Lee are on the Benches and Trash Receptacle committee. She would like to recommend that responsibility for benches and trash receptacles be turned over to Beautification. The committee agreed. Alice will report on progress and bring illustrations of bench designs to our next meeting.

Lee reported that a benefactor has offered install a foot bridge over the river at the west end of town. Scott noted that plans have been submitted to the appropriate review bodies and the town is awaiting their findings. Lee advised that the bridge may be similar to the bridge recently installed on Somerset Road.

River Bank Park Pavers

Fred suggested that a paver inscribed "Tropical Storm Irene August 28, 2011" be installed when the missing pavers are installed. Alice moved that the paver be purchased and installed. The motion was seconded by Carlotta and passed.

Kit will provide Fred with the exact spelling for the missing pavers so Fred can place the order.

Tracking Expenses

Lee noted that she, Fred and Celia are meeting after this meeting to review YTD expenses in preparation for a meeting with Christine after the Town Meeting.

Next Meeting

Monday March 12, at **8:00** am

Location: Library

Agenda

Election of officers

Ways to improve our meetings

Summer Flowers / Barrels

Gateway Garden

Maintenance

Bench Report – Alice

Land Report (FEMA) – Mary

There being no further business, Kit moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Fred and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Celia Weissman
Secretary