

Wilmington Beautification Committee
March 12, 2012

Committee Members Present:

Lee Schindel, Mary Wright, Len Chapman, Kit Cincotta, Alice Greenspan, Fred Skwirut, Celia Weissman

Committee Members Absent: Carlotta Gladding, Katy Little, Scott Murphy

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by Lee.

Minutes

Fred moved to accept the minutes of the February 27 meeting. The motion was seconded by Alice and passed.

Election of Officers

Chair – Lee was nominated by Mary and seconded by Celia.

Vice Chair – Mary was nominated by Alice and seconded by Len.

Secretary – Celia was nominated by Fred and seconded by Mary.

The candidates were approved unanimously.

A suggestion was made that we add a treasurer to the slate of officers, but it was decided that the secretary would function as both secretary and treasurer.

Ways to Improve Meetings

The only suggestion was to follow the agenda carefully to be sure nothing is missed and that we don't get off topic.

Meeting with Scott

Lee reported that she and Mary are scheduled to meet with Scott on Friday, March 16. They will review our mission, accomplishments and history and discuss how Scott thinks the committee can best contribute to the recovery efforts. Alice will update the Beautification Committee Scrapbook prior to the meeting.

Summer Flowers/Barrel Program

Fred moved that \$1,000 from the Capital Fund be transferred to the Plant Deposit Loan Fund. The motion was seconded by Alice and passed.

Mary reported that the barrels will be planted with papyrus, cleome, white begonia, orange New Guinea impatiens, lime sweet potato vines and purple vines. The hanging baskets and planters will be planted with a complementary selection of plants.

Six barrels will need to be purchased. Katy will coordinate purchase of the barrels. Some of the existing barrels will be moved from School Street and the People's Bank to eliminate line of site

problems and some of the barrels will be moved from Route 100 in order to concentrate more barrels downtown. Likely sites include Restland and the Historical Society.

Len is making replacements for the four bridge planters and the large planter in the park which were lost in the flood. He estimates that the cost of material will be approximately \$35 per planter.

Gateway Garden

Alice raised the topic of enlarging/enhancing the Gateway Garden. It will take a couple more years to mature and fill in, but even then, it's really too small for the space. Everyone agreed that there are many possibilities but planning should be deferred until Lee and Mary meet with Scott and the committee's priorities have been determined. It may be necessary to hold off any substantial work until next year. In the meantime, this year, the committee will take care of weeding and watering if necessary.

Landscape Maintenance

Lee estimated that approximately 15 hours of maintenance will be required on the existing sites:
River Bank Park – roundup, edging, and hand weeding
Trebbe – weeding and edging

The committee will handle watering at the sites if necessary and will clean up and prune the library parking lot on Green Up Day.

Lee will check with Scott to see if it's necessary to put the maintenance out to bid.

Bench Committee Report

Alice reported that several designs for the benches have been submitted. The committee estimates that ten benches will be needed although they don't all have to be installed at one time. The cost per bench is expected to be approximately \$800 to \$900. The committee is investigating private funding (sponsorship by businesses or individuals) as it is unlikely that they can be funded by this summer by a grant. A general discussion followed with several members offering suggestions. Alice will bring examples of the designs to the next meeting. When Lee and Mary meet with Scott, they will discuss whether he sees this as project which should be handled by the Beautification Committee.

South Main Street

Fred reported that he is meeting with Bill Foery of Black Diamond at 9:15 to assess what he can do to clean up the South Main Street property. Several committee members will also attend.

River Bank Park

Kit advised that Keith will be able to remove the lights from the pergola. Fred noted that shortly before the flood, the committee had prepared a recommendation for permanent lighting in the park and was scheduled to meet with the DRB in the fall. The general consensus was that while we still want to pursue permanent lighting, it should probably be tabled for this year.

Next Meeting

Monday March 26, at 8:00 am

Location: Library

Agenda

Barrels – Katy

Benches – Alice

WBC Long and Short Term Goals

There being no further business, Fred moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Kit and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Celia Weissman

Secretary