

Wilmington Beautification Committee November 12, 2012

Committee Members Present:

Lee Schindel, Mary Wright, Len Chapman, Kit Cincotta, Alice Greenspan, Keith Herbert, Scott Murphy, Cheryl Rothman, Fred Skwirut, Celia Weissman

Committee Members Absent:

Carlotta Gladding, Katy Little

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 am by Lee. Lee and the committee welcomed Keith.

Minutes

Cheryl moved to accept the minutes of the October 22 meeting. The motion was seconded by Fred and passed.

Treasurers Report

Celia reported: The financial reports as of October 31 are not available. As of September 30:

Unexpended Operating Balance: \$5,698.07. Pending expenditures \$140

Capital Balance: \$ 9,194.36.

Fred reported that he spoke to Adam Buursma regarding the pending \$140 charge for the Clethra, Adam advised that he donated the plants and would not be submitting a bill.

2014 Budget

Lee noted that the \$1,2382 budget for the Summer Flower Program has not been increased for several years. Last year in order to maintain level funding, the number of barrels was reduced. Cheryl moved that the committee request an increase of 10% (\$1,230) for the Summer Flower Program. The motion was seconded by Mary and passed. Cheryl moved not to request an increase for maintenance, landscaping, or seasonal decorations. The motion was seconded by Len and passed. The total budget requested will be \$17,512.

Holiday/Seasonal Decorations

- Len circulated the specifications for GE LED warm white lights which are guaranteed for 3 years. They are available at Home Depot for \$10 for a 30' strand. Cheryl moved that the lights be purchased from Home Depot unless they are available at the same or a lower price from WW. The motion was seconded by Len and passed. Len and Keith plan to install the lights before Thanksgiving. Lee advised that Katy's mother has offered to pay for the lights.
- Alice reported that she is planning to decorate the park on Monday, November 19 at 9:30 am and asked for volunteers to assist. The Town Hall hayracks were removed when the building was painted. They were not replaced due to a concern about the lack of a vapor barrier in the warm months. Scott advised that he will try to locate them and have them installed so they can be decorated. Alice advised that she may need to purchase soil if they've been emptied.
- Alice suggested that the fence at River's Edge be lit. The committee agreed. She will contact neighboring property owners to arrange for electricity and install the lights.
- Scott will contact the vendor handling sidewalk snow removal to see if they can shovel the park.

Summer Flower Program/Landscaping

Barrels and Planters: Scott advised that the highway department is devising a sling to pick up the barrels and expects to pick them up within a week or so.

Gateway Garden:

Celia reported that Lee prepared a rough sketch including suggested plants for the Gateway Garden expansion and faxed it to Rob Faley at VTrans. Rob approved the plan and advised that a site visit will not be necessary. Mary Ann McLeod will prepare a detailed scale drawing for review at the next meeting and if approved, presented to the Select Board.

Bright Lights

Mary reported that the Bright Lights committee has requested that the Beautification Committee contact the owners of empty buildings in the village center and ask them to light the buildings for the winter. Len will contact the Bakery, Houston's, and Costello's. Mary will contact the Vermont House.

Mary noted that the theme this year is "Starry Nights". She found instructions for making shooting stars which can be suspended between trees. She suggested that it would be great if they could be suspended over the river on either side of the bridge. Mary, Len, Keith and Kit will investigate.

Town Manager Update

Scott reported that on November 5, the Historic Village Committee met with Susan McMahon of WRC and David Nordstrom of the Conway School. The Conway School is a graduate school for Landscape Planning and Design. This year, the school is focusing on Windham County and has offered to prepare a streetscape for Wilmington. Scott will provide a preliminary statement of work to David by December. The project will be assigned to the students in April. The students will conduct an analysis and prepare a design by June. Examples of student projects can be viewed at the school's website, www.csld.edu.

Next Meeting

Monday November 26, at 8:00 am

Location: Town Hall

Agenda

Treasurers Report

Seasonal Decorations

Landscape

Meeting Schedule for the next few months

Town Manager Update

Please notify Lee of any additional items for the agenda.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Celia Weissman
Secretary