

Town of Scituate, Massachusetts
Beautification Commission

Minutes

Tuesday, June 16, 2020. 7:00 PM

ZOOM MEETING

I. CALL to ORDER: Due to technical difficulties the regular meeting of the Scituate Beautification Commission was called to order at 7:18 pm, June 16, 2020 by MA Palleiko

II. ATTENDANCE : Present: Beautification Commissioners Leslie Dienel, Sytske Humphrey, Mary Tennaro, Mary Anne Palleiko, Kathy McCormack ,Karen Desler

Absent : Laurrie Hall and Deb Barbary

III. STANDING REPORTS

A. TREASURER:

Amounts listed below as of 6/16/2020 (same as 4/21/2020)

FY 2020 OPERATING BUDGET: \$23,650.00

Bills paid: - \$ 8,800.00 (Morse contract July-May)

ZOOM - \$ 29.98

Sub-total \$8,829.98

COMMITMENTS: - \$ 1,100.00 (Morse contract June)

- \$ 486.00 (Northern Oaks)

- \$ 1,500.00 (R&C 30 merchant vouchers)

- \$ 1,741.67 (R&C AaL)

- \$ 1,209.00 (Bill Morse RRX and Town)

Proposal one: Town Hall \$ 1,732.41 (Kennedy's)

\$ 1,530.00 (Northern Oaks)

Proposal Two \$ 840.00 (Northern Oaks: weed prevention and mulching)

Sub-total \$10,139.08

Available Balance: **\$ 4,680.00** (influenced by other proposals)

BEAUTIFICATION TRUST FUND :

Available Balance **\$ 6,939.34**

(6/16/2020)

B. RAILROAD CROSSING ISLANDS: Islands look good, but there are problems watering the islands. We had a lengthy discussion about hiring watering folks; extending contracts to include watering; asking DPW to water, asking school bus drivers to water etc. Various approaches could not be considered until Phase 3 of Covid 19 protocols.

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C. ADOPT-A-LOT: The lots look wonderful. Leslie reported that R&C is doing well with record keeping and offers more detailed accounting figures. The supplemental forms are useful when volunteers need more plants.

D. I.T-WEB: No Updates.

E. PLANT SCITUATE: There are many Marigolds all over town. Last year's FAQ and Plant Scituate flyers were e-mailed and no expenses are reported.

D. MERCHANT PROGRAM: Merchant program participation decreased this year: 30 Merchants participated. The Beautification Commission received several requests for vouchers via e-mail.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Town Hall Wall and side garden: The Commission voted unanimously to spend \$3000 for the Townhall gardens at its May meeting. We have an additional \$ 840 quote from Northern Oaks for mulching and an additional quote from Kennedy's gardens for \$300 to have some larger plants. In addition we can develop the plantings on the left of Town Hall by adding Nepita and Salvia to the boxwoods. This will increase the total cost to \$4027.83. We have the money available, due to smaller participation in the merchant program and would still have \$3000.00 left over. Everything needs to be done by June 30 during this budget cycle. Leslie has been talking with all involved and will ask Kennedy's and Northern Oak to commit to this time line. Including to moving some plantings around; Planting boxwoods at the right side wall and planting the blue Spruce.
Voted: S Humphrey moved "The Commission can spend up to \$5000 to complete phases 1 and 2 of the Town Hall project", seconded by K Mc Cormack and passed unanimously.

B. PLANT A TREE : 5 trees will be planted on Cole Parkway. These trees are memorial trees and are part of a two year planting project which will include landscaping and watering. An ongoing concern of lack of participation in tree planting decisions has been voiced to Select Boardmember Maura Curran. K Dessler mentioned concern about future memorial plaques nailed to trees and how to avoid this. It was suggested to discuss facilitating greater participation in the placements of memorials at a future meeting.

C. SHIP SHAPE DAY: Donna Bangert has encouraged the Commission to skip this year's SHIP SHAPE DAY altogether. Fall is a tough time to collect debris etc due to increased underbrush and weed cover, in addition to increasing medical waste such as masks.

VOTED: K Dessler moved "To skip the 2020 SHIP SHAPE DAY due to circumstances surrounding Covid 19", seconded by K MC Cormack and unanimously passed.

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V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. COMMISSIONERS REAPPOINTMENTS: M Tennaro may have 2 new people interested in joining the commission.

B. END OF YEAR PROJECT: see OLD BUSINESS Town Hall Plantings

C. NEXT MEETING DATE: September 15

VII. MINUTES: no vote was taken

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: At 9:15 pm, a Motion to adjourn was made by M. Palleiko and seconded by S. Humphrey and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Sytske Humphrey (Secretary)