

Town of Scituate, Massachusetts Beautification Commission

Tuesday, May 19, 2020. 3:00 PM

ZOOM MEETING

- I. CALL to ORDER: Due to technical difficulties the regular meeting of the Scituate Beautification Commission was called to order at 3:16 pm, May 19, 2020 by MA Palleiko
- II. ATTENDANCE : Present: Beautification Commissioners Deb Barbary, Leslie Dienel, Sytske Humphrey, Laurie Hall, Mary Tennaro, Mary Anne Palleiko, Kathy McCormack, Absent : Karen Desler and Kathy McCormack (due to technical/communication errors) Guest: Donna Bangert

III. NEW BUSINESS: with guest Donna Bangert

Donna Bangert was contacted by FACTS, an organization that addresses teen alcohol use. This year's cancellation of Ship Shape Day and absence of a new date FACTS members explored the possibility of organizing roadside trash pick up with a focus on alcohol oriented trash. Donna received a request from this group to distribute our Ship Shape bags via the kiosk at the Transfer Station.

The Commission voiced several concerns: 1.bags are very expensive, 2. Difficulty monitoring if bags would be used as intended, 3. Absence of personal interaction with users to share pertinent info on safety guidelines; bag pickup etc.

**Voted :** MA Palleiko offered the following motion : “We will restrict the use of Ship Shape Bags for Beautification Commission use only”. Seconded by L Dienel and unanimously accepted.

IV STANDING REPORTS

**A. TREASURER:**

Amounts listed below as of 5/19/2020 (same as 4/21/2020)

FY 2020 OPERATING BUDGET: Bills paid:

Commitments Available Balance:

\$23,650.00

- \$ 7,700.00 (Morse contract Jul-Nov & March-April)

-\$ 2,200.00 (Morse contract May&June)

**\$13,750.00**

BEAUTIFICATION TRUST FUND : \$ 6,408.43 (2/20/2020) Interest: + \$ 30.91 (4/21/2020)

Donation + \$ 500.00 (2/29/2020 (Pollard) Available Balance **\$ 6,939.34** (4/21/2020)

No change from April. We did not yet receive invoices from Bill Morse (\$13750) and from R&C (\$7000).

**B. RAILROAD CROSSING ISLANDS:** Petunias were planted at RR Islands at Beaver dam; Captain Peirce and Parish Road. We can use more plants to fill in these areas.

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**C. ADOPT-A-LOT:** Coronavirus Public Health Guidelines have necessitated a major change in plant pick up at R&C. In addition, the new accounting system (requiring the exact amount spent by each AaL volunteer to be recorded on the flower form) has confused Ronny and Cindy. It was brought to the Commission's attention that Ronny prefers to charge a “flat” fee, equal to the amount permitted, listed on the vouchers. Mary Tennaro has talked to Cindy about our new book keeping methods that enable the

Commission to better track expenses. Volunteers have received supplemental forms to request mulch. Mulch will be delivered directly to the lot it is requested for.

**D. I.T-WEB:** No Updates.

**E. PLANT SCITUATE:** S Humphrey will write an article for publication in the Mariner and on Face Book. The Plant Scituate Flyer will again be submitted for distribution through PBS's "Virtual Backpack

**D. MERCHANT PROGRAM:** L.Dienel and MA Palleiko developed lists of e-mail addresses. MA Palleiko wrote an e-mail letter with a voucher attachment and e-mailed this info to merchants. MA Palleiko is still working on completing the list for the Greenbush Area. Concerns were expressed about tracking our expenses to enable the Commission to understand future expenses.

#### IV. OLD BUSINESS:

**A. Golf Course:** any ideas for the golf course please contact Susan Da Coste at [s.decoste@comcast.net](mailto:s.decoste@comcast.net)

**B. Watertank** We are still trying to get a picture of the new watertank. A suggestion was made to write an article about the watertank for the Mariner.

**C. Town Hall Wall or side garden:** Last September 17 two design proposals for the side garden from Kennedy Gardens (dated June 28 and June 13) were proposed to the Commission. There was a \$1000 differential between the two plans (\$1060 and \$2063). A recent proposal from Steve Leach (Northern Oaks) features purple grasses, pink tutsio and hydrangea with a cost between \$1145 (small)-\$2675 (medium). Leslie will discuss prices with Susan from Kennedy Gardens, possibly taking Steve's design with plant material from Kennedys. Leslie suggested to set the maximum amount we can spend.

**Voted:** MA Palleiko moved "The Commission can spend up to \$3000 to complete the Town Hall project", seconded by D Barbary and unanimously accepted.

#### V. NEW BUSINESS:

**A. COMMISSIONERS REAPPOINTMENT:** No Commissioners plan to step down from the Commission.

**B. CONSERVATION EFFORTS: PLANT A TREE :** Karen Dessler will research areas for placement of additional trees

**C. END of YEAR PROJECT:** L. Dienel will research the "Kennedy plans" for the TH side garden.

**D. REPLACEMENT OF JUNIPER TREE:** We need to remove an old dead Juniper Tree. A native replacement plant replacement of a Japanese Cedar is preferred.

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Steve from Northern Oaks prices a 6-7 feet tree for \$516. **Voted:** L Dienel moves "to buy a 6-7 tree to be installed by Northern Oaks for \$516" seconded by MA Palleiko and passed unanimously. The new tree needs to be watered daily. Water is available; in the past the TH Janitor would water. Commissioners will set up watering volunteers; each volunteer will water for one week.

**E. PROCESS FOR PLACING MEMORIAL BENCHES:** Lorraine Devin has the process.

**F. VOLUNTEERS** to submit and /or suggest articles for IT WEB and newspapers: S Humphrey volunteered to write articles. D Barbary requests commissioners to send her pictures for Face Book.

**G. PROCESS FOR PRIVATE MEMORIALS:**

**H. NEXT MEETING DATE:** June 16, 3:00 pm. via **ZOOM**

VII. MINUTES: no vote was taken

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: At 5:10 pm, a Motion to adjourn was made by M. Palleiko and seconded by S. Humphrey and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Sytske Humphrey (Secretary)