**SCITUATE BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION**

Minutes from Meeting March 16, 2021

via Zoom

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM. Present were K. Desler, L. Dienel, L. Hall, S. Humphrey, H. Kimball, L. Powers, K. McCormack, and M. Tennaro. Absent were D. Barbary and M.A. Palleiko. Guests were Donna Bangert (Ship Shape Day Organizer), Russell Paulin & Kelly Bower (Scituate Trashed), Marla Minier (Scituate Garden Club), and Seth Pfeiffer & Briana Triforo (Town of Scituate - technological assistance).

**II.** **Approval of Minutes (February 16, 2021)**

*Motion*: S. Humphrey made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2021 meeting. All were in favor**.**

**III. Ship Shape Day**

Donna Bangert communicated details for the day.

1. Saturday May 1st was approved by the Health Department with current pandemic mitigations in place (mask wearing, social distancing, etc.) D. Bangert will check back with the HD a week before the event to confirm event status.
2. A website is being built and should be ready by next weekend. The website will be owned for one year – shipshapeday.org.
3. There are plenty of supplies left (both bags and gloves). There are also 45 grabbers which will be loaned out with a $20 deposit (cost of grabbers is $18.99 plus tax/shipping).
4. D. Bangert requested $120 to change date on signs and posters. Larger banner will be changed for free. *Motion*: L. Hall made a motion to allocate $120 payable to D. Bangert for Ship Shape Day supplies. K.McCormack seconded the motion. All were in favor.
5. The large signs and banner will go up on April 16th. All other signs (four at major intersections, eighteen wire signs) will go up April 25th. Everything must come down on May 1st. S. Humphrey will look in to the possibility of a mass e-mail, verbiage at the transfer station, and the schools’ Virtual Backpack (to go out the weeks of April 5th & 12th).
6. Bookmarks will be printed and mention of Plant Scituate will be added again.
7. Volunteer sign ups will be discussed at the next meeting on April 20th. Set up is at 7:30 AM. Pick ups start at 8 AM and last until 1 PM.

**IV. Scituate Trashed**

Russ Paulin and Kelly Bower of Scituate Trashed (on both Instagram and Facebook) talked about potential collaboration with SBC in coordinating volunteer efforts to pick up trash in certain areas of town. They indicated that having the use of trash grabbers may entice more volunteers to join their efforts. S. Humphrey expressed concern over the cost of the grabbers. She has talked with Maura Curran who will investigate as to whether it would be possible to for the DPW to have a check out program. *Motion*: S. Humphrey made a motion to form a sub-committee that would work with Scituate Trashed in looking at the opportunity for a program that is both social and where supply needs are met. K. McCormack seconded the motion. S. Humphrey, K. McCormack, and M. Tennaro volunteered to be on the committee.

**V. Standing Reports**

1. Treasurer –
2. L. Dienel reported that when expected expenses are removed from the standing balance, the anticipated working balance for the rest of the year is $6,675. L. Dienel will check with Nancy Holt as to whether SBC Trust Fund resources can be used as well.
3. The Railroad Islands are going out for re-bid.
4. Railroad Crossing Islands – K. McCormack reported that it is still a little early to see what’s going on at the islands. She is considering more evergreens and grasses for more winter color and interest.
5. Adopt a Lot Program – M. Tennaro reported that Kelly Bower will be taking over two available AaLs (Clapp Rd intersection and the window boxes at Satuit Brook). There is one additional AaL available.
6. IT/Website Manager – D. Barbary was absent. S. Humphrey reported that this position will be vacant at the end of this term. And, in the interim, S. Humphrey and H. Kimball have a meeting with Lorraine Devine who will show them how to update the SBC website.
7. Merchant Coordinator – L. Powers reported that the merchant letters have not been sent yet. She needs to have a decision on whether vouchers for mums and wreaths will be included.
8. Plant Scituate – L. Hall confirmed many aspects of Plant Scituate this year: It will launch with Ship Shape Day, due to the pandemic there will be no school component, publicity will include an article in the paper and bulletin in Virtual Backpack at the schools, and the large wooden flowers will be placed at the Town Hall (S. Humphrey was concerned as to whether we could put the large wooden flowers up at Town Hall as we were not allowed to last year).

**VI. Old Business**

1. S. Humphrey and M. Tennaro will go to Goodwin Graphics to finalize Volunteer T-shirt graphics, colors, and costs.
2. L. Powers reported on findings from the Front Street special project sub-committee. One idea is to add large planters with coastal flowers to the the Harbor, potentially at major intersections. Advice was solicited from Chris Kennedy who recommended strong poly plastic 24-36” planters in tan or gray that would last through the elements for about 10 years. The planters have a TruDrop reservoir that would only need to be refilled approximately every 6 weeks. They would include gravel, soil, and coastal type plantings such as sage and grasses along with marigolds and an ivy. The cost per planters is $285 with an estimated total cost with plantings, etc. of almost $400. Concerns included maintenance responsibility (watering, dead heading), considerations for placement (need to assure accessibility), coordination with merchant window boxes, agreement with merchants, and overall cost. It was decided that there would be no vote for dollar allocation at this meeting. The committee will come back with more information including a final estimate from C. Kennedy. And, L. Dienel will follow up with N. Holt as to whether SBC trust fund dollars can be used for this project.
3. Special projects – Final discussion and vote will be at next meeting.
4. Along with M. Minier, the commission discussed the possibility of a Garlic Mustard Weed education table set up at Ship Shape Day. If trash collectors want to pick the weed, they can throw it in to the rubbish bags. All were in favor. Educational materials and this initiative in general will also be added to the SBC website.

**VII. New Business**

As the meeting was running well behind schedule, it was decided to save sharing of minutes from the board or other commissions until the next meeting.

**VIII. Notes**

Final discussion and a vote on this year’s special project (Front Street or the Health Department landscaping) with happen at the next meeting.

**IX. Adjournment**

*Motion*: L. Hall made a motion to adjourn at 9:09 PM. Seconded by M. Tennaro. All in favor. The next meeting will be April 20, 2021.

Respectfully submitted, H. Kimball