Tuesday, April 21, 2020 Minutes ZOOM MEETING

I. CALL to ORDER: The regular meeting of the Scituate Beautification Commission was called to order at 3:00 pm April 21, 2020 by MA Palleiko

II. ATTENDANCE : Present: Beautification Commissioners Debby Barbary, Leslie Dienel, Sytske Humphrey, Laurie Hall, Mary Tennaro, Mary Anne Palleiko, Kathy McCormack, Karen Dessler.

III. STANDING REPORTS

 **A.** TREASURER:

 Amounts listed below as of 2/18/2019 (same as 11/19,2019) FY 2020 OPERATING BUDGET: $23,650.00 Bills paid: - $ 7,700.00 (Morse contract Jul-Nov & March-April)

 Commitments -$ 2,200.00 (Morse contract May&June) Available Balance: **$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 money was spent except for the Bill Morse contracts. Moneys not spent will return to the Town Coffers. Leslie will check on how to put money on hold for future projects. However this prject must be decided on at our May Meeting.

 **B.** RAILROAD CROSSING ISLANDS: Islands look good in North Scituate. Hollitt Street Island looks poorly and Captain Pierce Island looks empty, however some plants are starting to come up. We can fill in empty space with Catmint and Nepeta. Deer are eating the lilies and we need more deer resistant plants, perhaps evergreens? We also need to monitor the need for summer watering. A request was made to set aside $1000.00 for additional plantings. Laurie Hall offered a motion to set aside $1000.00, seconded by Kathy McCormack and unanimously accepted.

**C.** ADOPT-A-LOT: Coronavirus Public Health Guidelines have necessitated a major change in the recruitment of volunteers. Restrictions about distancing and wearing masks as well as new pick up protocols at the greenhouses raised concerns for Commissioners. The Scituate Health Department approved volunteer activity at the AAL as long as volunteers adhere to existing guidelines. Mary Tennaro has contacted all 50 volunteers to see if volunteers wished to participate under these guidelines and feel safe doing so. Volunteers were happy to participate and new caretakers Karen Dressler, Deborah Barbary and friend, and Otto have joined as well. Questions arose about store pick up of plants. Mary T will check R&C’s guidelines and wille-mail these to our partcipants. We have until June 30 (end of the fiscal year) to purchase plants.

**D**. I.T-WEB: No Updates. Postponement of Ship Shape Day will be posted.

**E.** PLANT SCITUATE: We will promote Plant Scituate through e-mailing flyers to the school’s “Virtual Backpack”, the Mariner, Facebook and Religeous organizations.

**D.** MERCHANT PROGRAM : We are unable to have face to face interactions with Merchants. Leslie has a list of merchants. Leslie will also contact Andrea (our former merchant coordinator). Mary Anne has a list of Greenbush Merchants and will also try to find a list of merchant’s e-mails. The Commission expressed deep concerns about the plight of our merchants. Questions arose whether merchants would like to participate during these troubled times. A consensus was reached that it may be better to offer this program again. Each merchant can then decide if they wish to participate. **The Commission reached a concensus**  to: 1. Extend the Deadline, 2. Delay the start of this program, 3. Wait with taking action until we have a clear plan, 4.Prepare for action and write a Draft contact letter, 5. Scan in certificates, 6. Make a final decision at our May 19 meeting.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

 **A**. No Golf Course Update

 **B.** We are still trying to get a picture of the new watertank.

 V. NEW BUSINESS:

  **A**. STEAM SPECTACULAR has been canceled

. **B.** PLANT A TREE : We need to find a place where a new tree is needed. Town does not have an Arborist to guide taking care of and placement of trees. Is it possible to get together with the Town Manager, DPW, Selectboard/Maura to explore tree planting and propose the use of an arborist?

 **C**. COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP: we need to continue marketing our programs to increase membership on the Beautification Commission. Mary Anne will contact Ann McVeigh to clarify Ann’s membership status.

 **D**. SHIP SHAPE DAY: A request from Donna to “train” a Commissioner to take over SHIP SHAPE DAY next year. A suggestion to have several people share this commitment was made, as well as possibly combining Plant Scituate with Ship Shape Day

 **E.** MAY MEETING DATE: May 19, 3:00 pm. via **ZOOM**

VlI. MINUTES: A Motion to approve the February18, 2020 minutes was made by L.Hall, seconded A. Palleiko and carried unanimously.

VlII. ADJOURNMENT: At 5:10 pm, a Motion to adjourn was made by M. Palleiko and seconded by L.Hall and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Sytske Humphrey (Secretary)