

**ENFIELD BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, October 12, 2021 @ 7:00 pm
Enfield Department of Public Works Building
40 Moody Road, Enfield**

ROLL CALL

Present for the meeting were Vice Chairman Darren Ketchale, Secretary Deborah Gaskell, Roberta Ladd, Carolyn Surdel and Michala Schupp.

Also, Present: Joseph Muller – Town Council Liaison, Ken Boulette – Town Staff Liaison

Absent: Todd Barsalou, Jacob Nadeau, Christine Sarles

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Ketchale called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM -

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

September 14, 2021 – Deborah Gaskell noted to change issues to items. Carolyn Surdel motioned to approve the minutes with the noted changes. Michala Schupp seconded the motion. All were in favor. **Vote: 4-1-0**

OLD BUSINESS

- a. *Budget* – Ken Boulette stated he submitted the budget form to Deb McCarthy. The form was approved, and the town Council approved the budget. The Committee received the \$8,000 and \$2,000 was allocated to the Garden Club.
- b. *Adopt a spot* – Ken Boulette stated they put up a new sign for the Lions Club at a new location on Phoenix Ave. Kelly Scott has a spot on Phoenix Ave. and it is nice seeing more interest in the program.

CLEAN SWEEP

Darren Ketchale stated they held clean sweep on September 18th. The group was smaller than usual due to the timing and Covid. They plan to hold another in the Spring around earth day as usual.

Roberta Ladd stated the Committee was going to contact Tracy Jarvis from New Day Church to see if anyone from their congregation wanted to join the Committee.

Joe Muller said he has her contact information and can reach out to her.

GARDEN CLUB

Carolyn Surdel stated the Garden Club will have a new President, Dianne Pizzo, at the end of the year. In their last meeting Mr. Boulette was talking with Mr. Arnone about sprucing up the old town hall in the historic district. At the site near the McDonalds, they have cemetery flowers that are getting too big. She was thinking they could be transplanted to the old Town Hall location. She said all she asks is for dirt to replant something else.

Ken Boulette stated he will look at them. All he knows is that there is one large overgrown bush. There is a guy in buildings and grounds that does all the landscape designs. Michala Schupp stated she loves the idea of repurposing landscaping.

NEW BUSINESS

Carolyn Surdel stated the last time the website was updated in 2014.

Ken Boulette stated it is the towns Facebook website and may need to go through the Town Manager's office for review/approval.

Mikayla Schupp volunteered to add content and take pictures if someone can update the content online.

Ken Boulette will find out if the committee can access it.

Carolyn Surdel recommended taking a rototiller down the tree belts down Palomba and planting daffodils and tulips to give color. If that works, we could do a strip or partial strip every year.

Ken Boulette stated that area is heavily salted and is afraid plants won't last there. They will have to replant some good soil there because it's mostly sand.

Carolyn Surdel suggested to maybe a test spot to do a strip just to test out.

Ken Boulette recommended closer to Big Y.

Deborah Gaskell questioned how much maintenance those would need.

Carolyn Surdel stated they need very minimal. When you go through West Hartford, they have the barrels with petunias that are beautiful and was hoping the Committee could do something like that to brighten up the area.

Ken Boulette noted the raised beds and barrels might be a better fit.

Carolyn Surdel the other idea she had is to sell Christmas trees and wreaths to buy the flags for the town.

Roberta Ladd stated she asked that years ago and said they couldn't fund raise. The flags are a donation from Beautification.

Joe Muller stated he will check with town to see if they can do fund raising.

Daren Ketchale noted when they did clean sweep early on, they used to fund raising for the t-shirts and after several years was told they couldn't do any type of fundraising.

Roberta Ladd was wondering if they could use part of the \$8k to buy benches for the basketball court near the town hall and Lafayette park.

Carolyn Surdel questioned whether a bench or bleachers would be better on a sports field.

Ken Boulette stated he's thinking more of a player type bench that are a little cheaper. If the town isn't planning to put any benches at those spots, it's a good idea.

Daren Ketchale questioned the timing on the court.

Ken Boulette stated he is unsure on the timing. Alcorn is almost done. They were still working on the parking lot.

Joe Muller stated Councilor Hemmeler received a request from a resident to help Thompsonville businesses with window displays. They were discussing something around a contest with a press release.

Joe Muller questioned how to elect a new chairman.

Ken Boulette believes it is appointed by the Committee.

Joe Muller stated he will check on it.

Michala Schupp stated the two library branches are not feasible for kids to get to during the summer. She's seen free library's on private properties. She was thinking it might be a great addition to some of the parks. littlefreelibrary.com. They are about \$160 a few hundred dollars.

Darren Ketchale stated would we need some sort of approval to put on parks vs private property.

Roberta Ladd stated the Committee could have a contest for an artist to decorate the boxes and have the residents vote.

Michala Schupp stated she got the idea from Green Manor, but it's far from the library.

Darren Ketchale suggested coming up with a few different proposal locations.

ADJOURNMENT

Deborah Gaskell motioned to adjourn at 7:44 PM. Michala Schupp seconded the motion. All were in favor.