

MINUTES OF BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING
July 7, 2015

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The regularly scheduled Beautification Committee meeting was conducted on Tuesday July 7, 2015 in room 213 of Stratford Town Hall, 2725 Main Street, Stratford, CT pursuant to notice duly posted.

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Co-Chair Christine Griffin.

Members in attendance – Christine Griffin, Ann Fariss, Gail Liscio, Florence Kokoruda, Rita Scacchia, Donna Caserta, Mayoral Staff member Chris Bandecchi

Others in attendance — Christine Batoh, Conservation Administrator

II. Introduction of Christina Batoh — Environmental Conservation Administrator for the Town of Stratford. The goals and current plans and projects of the Beautification Committee were reviewed for Ms. Batoh's information. She will contact Aris Land Studio re: the Town hall green landscaping status.

III. Accept Minutes of the June 2, 2015 Meeting — A motion was made by Ms. Fariss, seconded by Ms. Caserta to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Old Business

1. Committee reports

a. Finances-Ms. Fariss stated the current balance is \$1,983.25. The invoice for the daffodil bulbs has not yet been submitted. Ms. Griffin has purchased yellow bags for the daffodil give-away program at \$55.00 per 500 bags.

b. Peck's Pond — It has been reported that mounds of dirt and debris had piled up on the property. Ms. Caserta stated that Rotary Club would undertake the project.

c. Greensweep

i. Signs — the new changes for next year were reviewed. Next year's date is April 23, 2016. 54 Lawn signs will be ordered.

ii. Suggestions for next year – review cumulative suggestions. Review of lawn sign locations. It is suggested that lawn signs be placed at stop sign and traffic light locations as Public works employees are supposed to pick them up when the project has concluded. The community service forms were missing at the Boat Launching ramp area on the day of Greensweep. It was discussed that a generic on-line form will be practical for those wanting to register for the service.

iii. Address for thank you — Ms. Liscio has the cards.

iv. Ms. Scacchia distributed additional cards.

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- d. Communications: create official list — A list of news media resources (newspapers, TV, Radio, websites), create a data base list with contact information. It is noted that there is an on-line community calendar and Facebook groups.
- e. Stratford Library Project — It was noticed that the side of the Library that abuts the Baldwin Center has invasive plant species growing and should be readdressed.
- f. Updates — Mr. Bandecchi reported on Access Road and the dump area.
- g. Honor Board — The Honor Board was transferred to the VFW on Veterans Way.

V. New Business

- 1. Curb Appeal Project - Beautification — The new nomination forms and on-line forms were reviewed. Cutoff date for submission of nominations has been extended past July 20. The Date of Thurs., August 6 at 9:00 a.m. was established to view/judge the nominated properties. Committee will meet at Town hall.
- 2. Other projects/business
 - News item for the Stratford community Calendar publication was reviewed.
 - Daffodil distribution efforts will be focused on the Historic District. The process of ascertaining names and addresses of property owners via Town Hall system was reviewed. Daffodils will be ordered for this fall from Colorblends of Bridgeport.
 - Refurbishing the kiosk at Paradise Green will be undertaken as an Eagle Scout project. The goal is to complete it by the end of August. Project has a budget of \$584.00.
 - Ms. Caserta reviewed the Holiday beautification program.
 - Ben Franklin project – The two Stratford markers placed on the Post road by first U.S. Postmaster General Benjamin Franklin were identified as West Broad Street /Barnum Ave. and the intersection of Ferry Boulevard/East Broadway. The author of the resolution passed by Town Council in November 2009 will be recognized at the September curb appeal awards ceremony.
 - Storage area — Mr. Bandecchi will locate storage areas for Beautification items such as Signs, tent, banner, daffodil post cards, party items, clip boards.
 - Dedication bench honoring Bruce Allesie was discussed.

Closing/Adjournment — Upon a motion by Ms. Caserta, seconded by Ms. Fariss, it was passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Cabral, Secretary