

**MINUTES OF BEAUTIFICATION
COMMITTEE MEETING
SPECIAL MEETING
JANUARY 5, 2016**

A special Beautification Committee meeting was conducted on Tuesday January 5, 2016 in the basement/employee lounge 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 6:04 p.m. by Chairman Christine Griffin

Members in attendance – Christine Griffin, Patricia Ritchie, Gail Liscio, Florence Kokoruda, Rita Scacchia, Stephanie Philips

Members absent—Ann Fariss, Barbara Julian,

Others in attendance: Conservation Administrator, Christine Batoh

II. OLD BUSINESS —Different Committee Reports and/or action

1. Finances-Approximately \$4,120 in the current budget
2. Technology-none
3. Communication-none
4. Updates on projects-none
5. Holiday lighting-Next meeting to discuss: new categories, making the web page easier to register for the holiday lighting contest and to promote holiday lighting and curb appeal through social media/facebook.
6. Bench-none

III. NEW BUSINESS — The following 2016 projects/events were reviewed and discussed:

- Plant order for Honor Garden and Entrances to Town Hall, Town Main Street pots and Paradise Green planters. Discussed different plant/flower varieties; low maintenance, drought resistant and cost effective. Hoping to replace some pots/planters, also looking into what other towns are using for their structure and the maintenance of their pots/planters. Find out what companies we have accounts with and do research for the best bid. Committee will gather the information and give it to Mrs. Batoh when completed.

- In March, we would need to purchase top soil and twenty-five daffodil plants per planter, it's important to plant them correctly, hopefully the committee can actually do the planting (union issue), if not, perhaps teaching instructions can be put into place for training. Consider putting this on next year's Agenda. Daffodil bulbs should be planted in the fall and during the winter any sort of greenery would be acceptable. Mrs. Griffin questioned what are the town's plans for year round beauty? Mrs. Batoh said she will look into the time and budget of the town's Public Works Department.
- Mrs. Batoh discussed a youth conservation project she is working on; called ECOS (Environmental Cleanup of Stratford) it's a youth involvement program, but would require some adult leadership. It's similar to Greenway, except this will be year round. Students will get credited hours and it is a great way for our youth to get involved in their community and also would benefit their future endeavors.
- Project Greensweep is set for April 30, 2016, usually the date coordinates with Housatonic River Commission, but as of now they hadn't set a date. It's important to start advertising and moving forward with the necessary procedures. Mrs. Batoh will look into this. The committee went over with Mrs. Batoh the locations, tasks, materials, supplies, and applications that are essential for this event. Also, they informed her of what Sponsors participated last year. A running list will be started, and should be done by a set date.
- Mrs. Griffin mentioned she received a call from the new Chairman of the Town Council, wanting to know what members are considering continuing on the committee. She stated there are several interested candidates. It would be viable to have a member representing each district (10) in the town. Discussion ensued.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY MS. PHILIPS TO HAVE MRS. SCACCHIA CREATE A FACEBOOK PAGE. IT WAS SECONDED BY MRS. LISCIO. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IV. ADJOURMENT: There being no further items to discuss. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectively Submitted,

Laurell Barr

