

MINUTES OF BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING
November 1, 2016

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A special Beautification Committee meeting was conducted on Tuesday, November 1, 2016 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, Gail Liscio, Florence Kokoruda, Rita Scacchia, Donna Caserta, Patricia Ritchie, Ann Fariss, Jen Reiley-Young, Maria Ferrera, Silvia Martin

Members absent — Barbara Julian, Indiana Harden, Council Member Tina Manus, Mayoral Support Chris Bandecchi

Others in attendance — Parks Superintendent Chad Esposito, Resident/Guest Jennifer Benai

Documents distributed during meeting

- Public Works Report
- Specifications for bidding for Tree Planting Services
- List of bidders for Tree Planting Services

II. Report from public works — Chad Esposito related information on the above-cited report in reference to planters on Main Street esplanade, plants at Paradise Green, Town hall and Short Beach plantings, spring plantings and purchasing trees.

Questions were posed to Mr. Esposito. He said that 100 trees will be planted with the funding from CIP (Capital Improvement Projects) and all homeowners were notified that the tree removal was taking place. Discussed: the town will plant trees on homeowners' private property on Huntington Road. The trees must be 25 feet from the road. Once planted, thereafter, the trees will become the homeowners' responsibility. He can forward an article to the *Stratford Star* re: replacement trees on homeowners' property.

He will secure pots for the plantings by handicapped individuals at the Baldwin Center. Mr. Esposito will report next month re: Aris – Town hall landscaper.

III. Introduction of Brian - litter concerns. He could not be present for this meeting.

IV. Review October minutes — A motion was made by Ms. Fariss, seconded by Ms. Ritchie to approve the minutes with an amendment forthcoming. Action was not taken.

V. Committee Reports:

A. Financial — Ms. Fariss reported a balance of \$4,682.78. The funds from the Mayor have not been deposited in the account.

B. Pumpkin festival, Paradise Green — Ms. Caserta said that the festival was a success with a record-breaking crowd attending. Beautification Committee's efforts in the event at Boothe Park on Oct. 17 were reviewed. All bulbs were distributed. The assistance of

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additional committee members will be needed for next year. Ms. Scacchia will forward photos for the Bulletin Board and the website.

- C. Tree, walkway issues — Ms. Ritchie reported that the Oak trees that were overhanging the sidewalk on Silver Lane were trimmed after she called the Public Works dept. Discussion continued re; communications with Public Works staff.
- D. Web page, photos of project — Ms. Scacchia needs to acquire the password to upload the photos to the website. Ms. Scacchia distributed the new Beautification business cards to the members. Ms. Griffin forwarded artificial daffodils to be attached to the name tags.
- E. Council's approval of committee changes — Council member Tina Manus forwarded the letter to the Town Attorney's office. She will get an opinion re: time and attendance commitments.
- F. Daffodil order, overhead sign for East Main, landscapers- daffodils New Business: — Ms. Griffin will contact local Landscapers to distribute daffodil bulbs to Main Street Businesses.
- G. Plant order suggestions, try project list, December mtg. location — list for plants and tree replacements need to be forwarded to Mr. Esposito by January

Discussed — Academy Hill bulbs, lack of directional signage to indicate parks and other town attractions from major Roads and highway exits; a potential area for plantings near the proposed roundabout (near Two Roads brewery)

The December meeting will be a dinner meeting with the location to be announced.

VI. ADJOURNMENT — Ms. Reiley-Young motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m. Ms. Caserta seconded the motion. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Cabral, Secretary