

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: October 5, 2016

3:30 PM

Provincetown Town Hall

Present: Bill Docker, Anika Costa, John Krajovic, Allan MacKinnon, Eric Larsen (DPW), Frank Vasello, Curtis Balom

Excused Absence: N/A

Absent: N/A

Bill Docker Moved to accept the Minutes of September 22, 2016

seconded. So voted: 4-0

With the Following Amendments: N/A

Public Statements: *Rick Ahlberg*, Chair Bike Committee and Provincetown 365 Representative

As of October 25, traffic has put in request to convert some vehicle parking to bike parking at Pepe's lot (Johnson Street lot). Bicycle counts at this location have been as high as 41 during the summer, making the Bike Committee aware that there needed to be an initiative for the traffic hearing. The Bike Committee is doing lots of work on adding more bike racks and funding with CPA to add bike racks at Town Hall and the Visitor Service center

Want to extend bike parking at either end of Town Hall if OK with fire chief. Original install was in mulch so they start to rot in just a 5-year life-space. It is the most-used area for bikes during summer. Hoping to accommodate peak season with more bike parking. Bike Committee would like to collaborate with Beautification Committee to find better solutions.

Eric Larsen noted that anything at Johnson Street must be in lower third and that 20 seasonal spots would likely be a problem for portable racks. He has spoken with Astrid (the owner of Pepe's) about converting spots. Town Hall and Johnson Street additions would probably happen fall of next year for use the following spring.

Bill Docker said we can put Rick Ahlberg on the agenda for the November meeting and will notify. Asked Rick if he wanted a formal vote from us for the work he is doing. Rick said that at this point he is not asking for formal vote, but if anyone on the Beautification Committee wanted to speak on the topic as an individual, that would be OK. Says he would love to help with plantings at east end playground since he lives nearby

Financial Report:

Balance in General Fund: currently unavailable

Balance in Gift Fund: currently unavailable

New Monies Received: currently unavailable

**Committee Discussion – Working Group Reports - Decisions – Action Items –
Reports – Etc.**

1. Project Reports

- a. Discussion of September 22, 2016 site visit to Pilgrim Memorial Park
E. Larsen: An estimated six months before transfer. Some problems with Conwell St because of need to coordinate with district to gain access permits. Cost of site plan, approximately \$2500
J. Krajovic: Most of site is beyond 100 ft of Conservation Committee
E. Larsen: Standard procedure should state to ; can't touch it for 6 months to 1 year; recommends talking to David Panigore before sending letter to avoid stepping on anyone's toes...possibly better to set up brief meeting; wants to read in detail
J. Krajovic: Much is out of our experience; we may need to force conversation to higher level
J. Krajovic, E. Larsen: Cape Cod Commission and National Park Service favor bike paths
F. Vasello: Will meet with town manager and pair with Bike Committee to ask about sending a letter (10-minute meeting)
- b. Plantings at edge of East End Playground (FV, JK, AC, CB to check)
J. Krajovic, E. Larsen: Lawn is doing well
FV, JK, AC, CB to check and discuss at next meeting
- c. Planning Board Meeting, McPherson/Panagore, Fisherman's Wharf/Legasse Pier
B. Docker, J. Krajovic: provided general update to BC
- d. Possible changes to library lawn
E. Larsen: Briefed committee on info about the trustees request for funds to change the slope to walls
B. Docker: We need to included in discussions about changes to library and other public space; there are likely good alternatives to the \$25,000 the trustees have requested to redo walls.
- e. Work with the Charter Committee
B. Docker: The Charter Committee has asked that the Beautification Committee create document to outline about what we do, why, and how it overlaps with other committees. (Also noted that Linda Guifré is the new Executive director of 400.)
Group: General discussion of the purpose of BC committee and how we can best involve ourselves and provide value. Best to have a consistent, focused point-of-view.

2. New Business

- a. Representative from Garden Renovations (*Jenifer Corliss, Jennifer Crooks*) discuss MPL, Grace Hall Slope, Islands, etc.
They give an overview what they've done to help with the municipal parking area this year. *B. Docker:* Asks if they can do an assessment and plan for planting along walkway and MPL parking. *J. Crooks:* irrigation and wind are a problem; there is well access and can add more trees on side where busses are, but that info has never surfaced. *J. Crooks* advises that we get irrigation first. Spigot is there.

E. Larsen: Noted that the spigot is town water and cost of irrigation would be ~\$2800. *J. Crooks:* Likely that we need to rip out bed and plant new, but first need to ensure there is water then take care of planting; need well strong enough to service between two piers. *B. Docker* summarizes info and notes that we would need a flow test to see what the max area is that can be watered with drip hoses.

Detailed Discussion of Requirements and Possibilities

B. Docker: Parking department has stated that the water is from a well (uses an electric switch); he agrees it needs irrigation.

E. Larsen: Will call Jarod. Would need to contact 3rd party for the well work

J. Crooks and *J. Krajovic:* Discussed details of initial “rip-out” phase and second phase to add irrigation

F. Vasello: This extent of work has not been on agenda. Do we really want to do this? Do we have the money earmarked?

J. Crooks: Area will need clean soil. She can create an estimate, but there is infrastructure that needs to be in place. Garden Renovations will provide labor to install and discount the cost of plants (possibly 50% off?). This work has not been completed because we don’t know anything about irrigation yet.

B. Docker: Potential problem is with Fisherman’s Memorial. Where will it be? Will it cause problems with this project. We need to know footprint and height.

J. Corliss: It could thrive with irrigation

Group: There are trees and bushes; most plantings didn’t make it this past summer.

J. Krajovic: Can’t make a decision right now based on current info.

A. MacKinnon: We now know what happens when plants aren’t watered enough; we need a commitment and cost estimate for well.

B. Docker: The portion facing water isn’t in bad shape...trees living...a bit overcrowded; we should be able to take on planting bed; second question is quality of soil (soil removal might damage some of the roots); can we do something inexpensive and put in 100 bags of cow manure? Current soil is a little sandy, but just needs a bit more organic matter.

J. Crooks, J. Corliss: Ask for soil by the yard rather than by bag

F. Vasello: Need to develop flow chart to show steps to doing this ... costs of each step

J. Krajovic: Agrees that the first phase is investigative... costs

A. Costa: Noted that there is no accepted design for monument yet

B. Docker: A contact in parking might know who put in the well; part 2 is what is

E. Larsen: will measure and come up with a ballpark; \$17/foot to remove 18”

J. Crooks: need 18” removed but birches have shallow roots so must be careful

F. Vasello: We may need to top the trees

B. Docker: Trees are currently under wires

J. Crooks: Very few trees work there because so windy and salty

J. Krajovic: 1200 square feet total area

E. Larsen: \$3000 worth of loam (for planter area, not the part on the water); need to quickly budget and put in as capital item (July 1 capital item)

J. Crooks: If funds can be appropriated, Beautification Committee work will be

first in spring

B. Docker: Asked what would be pricing for spring planting and can Garden Renovations provide labor for Grace Hill plantings?

- b. Enrichment of sandy soil at MPL (see above for costs)
- c. Considered purchase of more white clam shells for locations throughout town. For the west-end turn at the Commercial Street/Tremont Street split *B. Docker* says can remove from list ... arrangement with Tony is that half comes out our budget and half out of his for clam shells and mulch (*J. Krajovic, F. Vasello*: Asked why out of BC budget? *B. Docker*: Will add to list of things to discuss with the town manager.)
- d. Discussion of “recycling” various plants throughout town, which need to be separated, and to use them in other public locations (need to put some of the planting beds to bed...about a 4-hour project...set up meetings for)
- e. C.O.A. Volunteers for summer 2017 discussion (volunteers can get money off taxes ... tax abatement. We can apply for one or two people to do the work including job description and interview. *A. MacKinnon*: would be nice if each person has one specific area of responsibility).
B. Docker: Based on discussion, we should vote on whether or not to move forward with this.
Vote results: 4 for, 1 against, 1 abstain
Bill to submit required paperwork.
- f. Purchase of more bulbs for Grace Hall Slope, and elsewhere
Discussion of possibilities:... *J. Krajovic*: need to be planted in drifts, will look Wednesday
- g. Discussion of Fall, 2016 and Spring, 2017 projects and planning next meeting
Will be primary subject for November meeting
- h. Discussion of two additional planters at Town Library to protect lawn
- i. Discussion of possible Ground Covers for Grace Hall Slope and Library slope.
Covered in earlier discussion.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

- a. June 6 (approved at previous meeting), July 11 (approved), September 22
(Motion: *B. Docker*, Second: *F. Vasello*, Approval: unanimous vote (4:0) to approve minutes)

4. Treasurer’s Report/Invoice Payments

- a. Still unable to obtain complete financial reports.

Adjourned: Motion: 6:01 p.m. B. Docker motion, Second: C. Balom, Approval: unanimous vote to adjourn meeting.

The next meeting of the Provincetown Beautification Committee will be held:
Tuesday, November 1, 2016 at 3:30 P.M. in Caucus Room at Town Hall. 260
Commercial St., Provincetown, MA

Respectfully submitted,
Curtis Balom, Committee Clerk