

# Beautification Committee Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday, October 5, 2011, 5:30 PM, Caucus Room, Town Hall

**Present:** Barbara Rushmore, Ross Sormani, Sheila LaMontaigne and Todd Westrick

**Absent:** Mary Ann Powers on excused absence

**Guests:** Town Manager, Ms. Sharon Lynn and Assistant Town Manager, Mr. David Gardner

## **Old Business: (order of business adjusted to accommodate the Guest's schedules) Joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen:**

The Beautification Committee met with Town Manager, Ms. Sharon Lynn and Assistant Town Manager, Mr. David Gardner in a follow-up discussion regarding the September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Lynn recognized the achievements of the Beautification Committee within the past 6 months and expressed her gratitude. In addition, Ms. Lynn expressed her desire to address the negligence of town property and is extending herself to facilitate and work in conjunction with the Beautification Committee and town employees to achieve this goal.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

Barbara Rushmore moved to accept the minutes from the 9/14/11 meeting, Motion seconded, So all voted

## **Financial Report:**

Ross Sormani reported the balances of the Beautification Committee resources:

- Beautification Committee Gift Fund: \$19,340.84
- FY 2012 Budget: \$8,046.33
- Memorial Park Gift Fund: \$412.54

## **Old Business: Joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen, continued:**

There was a brief discussion about the meeting and the topics of discussion. Barbara Rushmore suggested that the Recreation Department be informed that the seasonal water access in both playgrounds is in need of winterizing.

## **New Business:**

**Fall clean-up of traffic islands:** Todd Westrick made the motion to set the date set for a committee work and education session on Saturday, October 22, 2011 at 9 AM, starting at the Jerome Smith/Shankpainter Roads intersection, Motion seconded, So all voted

**Comfort Station:** Ross Sormani expressed an interest in promoting the development of the landscape with special attention being paid to 1) the development of shaded areas, adjacent the public bathrooms, where benches can be installed, 2) beautification and development of the areas adjacent to the Bus Stop that are being covered by sand.

Discussion followed regarding: 1) Todd Westrick requested documentation of existing infrastructure, noting that the pump station may impact the potential for certain forms of development and 2) inquired about the potential to access existing wells for irrigation water

Barbara Rushmore offered to assist by providing 1) a source for and 2) specifications for the town's existing benches, Todd Westrick offered to assist by researching shade structure options, Ross Sormani expressed that he will begin the necessary research.

**Tree Planting along Standish Way:** Barbara Rushmore expressed an interest in planting a Locust tree in the sidewalk along Standish Way near the intersection of Commercial Street. Ms. Rushmore stated that she has contacted the local merchants and that there are no objections from them.

Discussion followed regarding: 1) Assistant Town Manager, David Gardner's request for tree grates to be installed on new trees being planted in paved spaces as to address public safety concerns, 2) Todd Westrick requested installation specification and 3) an assessment of labor needed to install tree grates along with 4) documentation of existing infrastructure locations and 5) an inquiry as to a potential for impact to the area by the water infrastructure/ Commercial street repaving projects.

Sheila LaMontaigne offered to assist Barbara Rushmore in researching tree grates. Barbara Rushmore expressed that she will begin the necessary research.

**Confirmation of the next meeting dates:**

The committee agreed to schedule the next meeting on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 PM.

**Please note:** A request for an item to be considered in crafting the next meeting agenda is to be submitted in writing no later than 7 days after the prior scheduled meeting.

**Meeting Adjournment:**

Ross Sormani moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM., Motion seconded, So all Voted

Respectfully Submitted,

Todd Westrick

Chair and Interim Secretary, Beautification Committee