

Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes

March 15th, 2023

In Attendance:

Kyle Nuse

Blair Watson

Lauren Phillie

Blake Parker

Adrienne Stevson

- Changes or Additions:
 - Kyle told the committee that Johna needing to take a hiatus from taking meeting minutes. Blair said they would be happy to do it for the foreseeable future.
- Public Comment – None
- ***Motion to Approve February meeting minutes by Lauren, seconded by Blair. Motion unanimously approved by present members***
- Chair Report by Kyle
 - Spark Grant for “Scenes of Johnson” mural was completed and submitted on time.
 - There were 5 applications for beautification mini-grants
 - Kyle and Lauren represented the committee with a booth at Town Meeting day. Two volunteers signed up to participate in community gardening projects this year.
- Discussion around spring and summer projects and collaborations
 - Since we were not able to present the town-funded gardener position on the Town Meeting ballot, it was agreed that we will need to scale back some of our gardening projects in the coming year. The Committee will focus on the Cold Spring while leaving the Memorial Garden at Johnson Elementary and the gardens at the Municipal Building to be tended by their respective organizations.

- Cal Stanton of Laraway School has volunteered to build a large planter box with his students to wrap around the Cold Spring welcome sign. He will send us working plans after sugaring season ends. Estimated cost of materials is \$250.00. The Committee will work with Cal and community partners to seek donation of materials. There is a possibility of a Village Trustees allocation for the costs of materials, dirt and flowers.

- Mini Grant Applications

- Historical Society, \$200 for mulch, hanging flowers, and porch light

- The Committee would recommend making the mulch and flowers the priority projects with the grant

- Jenna's Café, \$200 for flowers, plants, landscaping

- Committee approved application as is

- Lamoille Housing Partnership, \$200 for community project to build pollinator garden at the property entrance.

- The application requested consultation with the Committee; however, the Committee agreed that the idea was wonderful and there was no need to consult regarding project management and work quality and will recommend that they do their own research for this.

- Application approved by the Committee

- Diana Osborne, \$200 for casting seeds in town and covering graffiti on rocks at Prospect Rock trial parking lot

- The Committee did not approve the casting seeds portion of the application due to the low likelihood of flowers growing from that process.

- Committee approved \$100 grant for purchasing supplies to create a moss "paint" to cover the rocks at Prospect Rock with a natural covering.

- Dee Lehouiller, \$100 for flowers at the community pizza oven

- Committee approved renewed application from previous year due to success of these flowers last year.

- Kyle will present the Mini-Grant Applications and Committee recommendations to the Select Board and request that the grants be approved and funded by the Town.

- Committee agreed to be more specific with using “consultation” language next year in advertising the Mini Grant program. It seems some of the applications misinterpreted our intent to offer ideas as a request to be more involved in the project implementation and the Committee does not have the capacity to provide that service.

- Meeting adjourned at 6:45