

Beautification Committee Minutes

Wednesday, August 14th, 2024

Present: Blake Parker (P) Adrienne Parker (P) Kyle Nuse (P) Johna Keefe (A)

Public: Landon DePaulo (P) Bobby Shulman (P)

Call the meeting to order. Changes/Additions?

No additions

Public comment

Bobby loved the boxes on Railroad Street and how they have basil in them. Kyle mentioned that Amy Shulz donates flowers to us and donated the purple basil as well. Bobby suggested adding mint. Adrienne and Kyle explained the structure of minutes and agendas. Kyle said that we are right now a five member committee so we don't have any open seats right now. Adrienne expressed interest in expanding our committee to seven members so there are more odds of people being able to attend. Adrienne asked Landon and Bobby if they were interested in becoming members or being volunteers for now. They both said they are only interested in being volunteers for now.

Approve the meeting minutes of 6/24/24

Kyle moved to approve minutes, Blake seconded and motion was approved.

Kyle updates on mural and wayfinding sign at trail head

Fin spruced up the Humans of Vermont mural. Fin is going to come again to do more touch ups. No purchases have been made from Beautification Beautification for the touch ups.

Kyle said that the wayfinding sign was installed by Upward Bound. Some more signs need to be added to the sign but her family and her might add them if Upward Bound can not. Legion Field and the Arboretum need to be added. Upward Bound sponsored that project.

College Student Weed Out Session

Kyle and Adrienne never got an answer from the college for scheduling a weed out session. We will wait two more weeks for response then if no response Kyle will reach out to the athletic department at Johnson college or Laraway School or will send Adrienne contacts to reach to schedule something with students

Fall decorating and dividing perennials

Adrienne will reach out to Johnson Farm and Garden to see if they could donate hay bail for decorating in the next couple weeks. She will also purchase bulbs to plant. *Kyle moved to spend up to \$150 on bulbs, Blake seconded and motion was passed.*

We discussed splitting perennials and collecting seeds after the Tractor Parade on September 7th at 10am. We will meet at the Cold Spring.

The group then decided to meet on September 29th for a fall decorating.

Blake moved to spend up to \$250 on mums and fall decor, Kyle seconds and motion is passed.

Shared Google Account for Tracking Purchases and Prioritizing Projects

Adrienne has set up a google email and drive account for the committee. Within this account is a spreadsheet for tracking purchases and prioritizing projects. There is also a folder for putting receipt images and those can be linked to the Purchases spreadsheet. Kyle informed everyone that we are at a fresh budget right now starting at \$3,000 from the Town and \$500 from the Village. The group also discusses the need to obtain a tax-exempt letter from Rosemary to avoid paying taxes on purchases, as they are under the town's umbrella. The group emphasizes the importance of having this letter present when making purchases to claim tax exemption.

Project Spreadsheet and Prioritizing Beautification Efforts

The group reviews a project spreadsheet that categorizes various beautification projects, including hardscaping, physical cleanup, events, public art, landscaping, and more. The group discusses the status of these projects, whether they have been started, are in progress, or have been blocked by the town. The group also identifies

projects that are more about raising awareness or pushing the town and village to take action, rather than direct involvement. The group emphasizes the need to maintain steady pressure on the town/village to address these issues. Adrienne will add an additional page in the spreadsheet for raising awareness on projects for the town and village. Everyone decided to focus on these projects: Harvest Festival, Power Washing Cold Spring, and Fall Decorating.

Harvest Festival

The group discusses plans for a harvest festival, considering activities such as a chili competition, agricultural presentations, pumpkin carving contests, bobbing for apples, and a community potluck. The group acknowledges the challenge of generating enough participation for a plant swap or dividing perennials event, as the energy may not be as high in the fall as it is in the spring. The group explores the idea of collaborating with the Pizza Oven Committee to coordinate the event, potentially incorporating a community art project as part of their offering in addition to decorating. Kyle will reach out to Jasmine Yuris (Chair of Pizza Oven Committee) to see if they still plan on having the event and how the Beautification Committee can help.

Meeting Adjourned

Adrienne moved to end the meeting, Kyled seconded and the motion was passed at 8:16pm.