

# Beautification Committee Minutes

Wednesday, January 8th, 2025

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

## Summary

The Beautification Committee discussed budget updates, noting a current balance of \$1,355.68 after recent purchases, including solar lights, water sprayers, and supplies. They plan to allocate \$1,000 for mini-grants and consider rain gardens as a project. The committee approved a flower sculpture by Mike Stanley for the playground and proposed a trailhead artwork contest with themes like "traveling into the future." They also discussed a community bike sculpture project, involving repurposed bikes decorated with flowers, to enhance the town's biking community. Finally, they planned to take down holiday decorations and address the failure of solar lanterns due to cold temperatures.

## Outline

### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes and Budget Update**

Adrienne asks if there are any additions to the agenda and public comments.

Blake motions to approve the previous meeting minutes, and Kyle seconds it.

Adrienne notes that Lauren will abstain from voting since she missed the meeting.

Adrienne shares her screen to discuss the budget, noting purchases made by Rosemary, including solar lights, big reads, a V bore water sprayer, paints, plywood, boughs, and soil.

Kyle and Adrienne discuss the allocation of funds from the village budget, specifically the \$3,000 for the water system sprayer.

### **Discussion on Budget Allocation and Village Funds**

Blake asks if the seeds were added to the budget, and Adrienne estimates they were around \$100.

Kyle points out that the water sprayer should be allocated to the village budget, and Adrienne agrees to email Rosemary to clarify.

Adrienne suggests creating a separate column for village funds to ensure transparency.

The committee discusses the importance of spending village funds on village projects to avoid scrutiny.

Lauren offers to help with the budget, and Adrienne mentions that it is just easier for her to do it since she is the only one that can make purchases.

### **Mini Grants and Rain Garden Projects**

The committee discusses the mini grant application process, including the timeline and allocation of funds.

Kyle suggests offering a list of specific projects for mini grants to encourage more applications. The idea of rain gardens is brought up, with Kyle explaining the educational and financial aspects.

Johna suggests creating a presentation on rain gardens to educate the public.

The committee decides to include rain gardens in the list of mini grant possibilities.

### **Artwork Contest and Trailhead Sculpture**

Adrienne mentions the approval from the Select Board to place a flower sculpture from Mike Stanley at the playground.

The committee discusses the possibility of Mike Stanley creating more sculptures, including ones related to flooding.

Adrienne proposes a trailhead artwork contest, and the committee agrees to set parameters and themes for the contest.

Adrienne and Blake volunteer to work on the Google Form for the contest and come up with a timeline.

### **Community Bike Sculpture Project**

Kyle introduces the idea of creating bike sculptures with flower baskets to enhance the town's biking community.

The committee discusses the logistics of gathering materials, painting the bikes, and securing them.

Johna suggests involving local businesses in sponsoring the bike sculptures.

The committee decides to create a rough map of potential locations and seek permission from the Select Board and village.

### **Holiday Decorations and Lanterns**

Adrienne mentions taking down holiday decorations and the need for help with heavy items.

The committee discusses the failure of the solar lanterns due to cold temperatures and the possibility of repurposing them for summer events.

Kyle suggests keeping the solar lights for future use and considering them for nighttime lighting in the summer.

The committee agrees to contact the village to take down the remaining holiday decorations and lanterns.

### **Meeting Adjustments and Next Steps**

Blake suggests moving the meeting time to 6 PM to avoid conflicts with other commitments.

The committee agrees to adjust the meeting time and plans to discuss the rain garden project with Peter in the next meeting.

Adrienne will create a Google Form for the trailhead artwork contest and work with Kyle and Blake on the project.

The committee plans to finalize the details for the bike sculpture project and seek permission for locations.

## Action Items

- Create a separate budget sheet to track town vs. village funds.
- Email Rosemary to specify that the \$248 water sprayer should come from the village budget.
- Reach out to Peter from the Lamoille County Conservation District to invite him to the next meeting.
- Create a Google Form for the trailhead artwork contest and develop a list of potential themes.
- Reach out to the village to get permission for placing bike sculptures along Railroad Street.
- Take down holiday decorations, including bows and lights from the Covered Bridge.
- Reach out to the village to coordinate taking down the solar-powered lanterns.