

TRAFFIC AND BEAUTIFICATION MINUTES
MAY 6, 2019

PRESENT:

Phyllis Juetter, Chair
Linda Lauerman
Vonnie Mott
Mary Ann Weber
Terry DeFilippis
Gail Tafaro
Mike Galbraith
Robert Burns

Meeting opened by Phyllis Juetter 10:30 pm

Points for discussion:

Operation Pride Results

- 50 + volunteers participated including Knights of Columbus, Boy and Girl Scouts, Council members, and townspeople.
- All shirts were distributed so we will need to order all new ones.
- Mary Ann will talk to Deblyn Screenprinters to order for next year.
- Need more grippers. Perhaps Home Depot would be willing to donate some. The six we have were purchased by Bob Burns.
- Hillcrest Road needs cleaning but too dangerous to do without a vehicle with hazard lights.
- Phyllis mentioned that there is a car battery in the stream up at the top of Hillcrest Road. Concern that if it decays the acid will reach the water system. Requesting that the DPW remove it as soon as possible.
- We could use more garbage cans along the lake. It seemed cleaner closer to the garbage cans.
- Medical building has a depression for drainage in front of the building that is accumulating garbage. It would be the medical centers responsibility to clean that area.
- The bus stop on Terrill Road by the new movie theater is very much in need of cleaning. However Bob Burns told us that the bus stop is not Watchung property.

Focus for T&B

- Our focus for spring/summer will be Somerset Street medians, Spratford Park, Borough Hall and the Blue Star Memorial.

Medians:

- Discussed the Red Oaks in the upper median. After discussion, it has been decided to look into moving the red oaks and planting cherry trees as the other medians have to look more consistent. Possibly replanting the red oaks at Best Lake.
- Mike Galbraith said the trees are doing well and the ones that look a little thin just may need more time to develop. He said the plastic strip surrounding the bottom of the tree is biodegradable and will not interfere with growth.
- Mike suggested that the trees should be trimmed once a year.
- Mike will quote new cherry trees and moving the red oaks.

Borough Hall:

- Discussion with Mike Galbraith about planting rhododendrons in front of Boro Hall.
- Discussion with Mike about azaleas in front of Boro Hall as well.
- Bob Burns pointed out that there are bushes in front of Boro Hall toward the Exempt Hall that are overgrowing and hard to trim. They are older and could be replaced with other bushes perhaps flowering bushes.

Spratford Park

- The beds at Spratford need to be enlarged and more plants. Suggested Norwich spruce or Alberta Spruce. Mike Galbraith will look the area over and see what can be done.
- Possibly plant trees behind the sign maybe Dogwood Cherries or Red Oaks.
- If we plant in front of the sign, we will need to keep the plantings low as to not block the Watchung sign.
- The fence by the gas station needs bushes or trees to block the view of the gas station.
- Bob Burns said that the gasoline leak from the gas station is now fully resolved.
- Phyllis suggested to Mike Galbraith that we plant Lelands, Norway spruce or some evergreen trees.

Blue Star Memorial:

- Possibly plant two small Weeping Cherry trees.
- Prepare barrels for planting
- Clean up grounds
- Vonnie Mott asked that we go slow in this area as the Garden Club has taken care of this area and may have some ideas different from T&B.

Library:

- Needs repainting and Bob indicated that this is going to be done.
- Planting flowers should be postponed until after painting is done so ladders and foot traffic do not ruin what has been planted.

Other Items:

- Terry asked Bob Burns if the railings on the bridge at the circle could be painted black as they are in need of painting and she did not think they should be white. Bob indicated that the bridge belongs to the county. He can mention it but cannot handle locally.
- Police Station needs ground cover. Possibly Myrtle or Pacasandra.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ann Weber