

Traffic and Beautification Meeting

September 13, 2021

Present: Phyllis Juetter, Catherine Leigh, Pete Martino, Terry DeFilippis, Gail Tafaro, Vonnie Mott

Somerset Street Median Plantings: The median across from police station incurred the most damage, but the cherry trees survived. The median closest to the circle needs water so trees and flowers can be planted. Roots of some Cherry trees are now exposed. Pete suggested the dirt that washed onto Mobus tennis courts be used around the trees.

Spratford Park: Soil is needed in order to plant evergreens behind the Watchung sign wall. Shrubs needed to fill the void on the left side of the wall.

Fall Decorating: Friday, September 24th at 10:00. Meet at Borough Hall parking lot.

Best Lake Sign: Need to contact a vendor for an estimate. The design will be the same as the Watchung Lake sign.

Original Watchung Sign at Best Lake: Sign has been removed and taken to Texier house for restoration and will be displayed there. Historical Committee plans to hang a replica in the same area as the original sign at Best lake.

Best Lake: Bridge needs to be repaired, parking lot paved, and sidewalks installed. Flowering native trees to be added around the lake. Phyllis and Pete will meet at Best Lake, Sunday, September 19th to assess how many trees are needed and where they should be planted. Trees will be purchased with monies from the Tree Fund.

Traffic Problems: Need volunteers to write letters of our concerns to Freeholders about speeding and truck turnaround on Hillcrest,

Hillcrest Road Concerns: DPW and/or Somerset County needs to clear debris as well as trim bushes and trees from the medical building complex to Guinard Drive so residents can safely walk to circle.

Winter Holiday decorating: Need to order the "Little Red House" banners (a winter snow scene) for Somerset Street. Need to replace 2 artificial evergreen trees on either side of Borough Hall doors.

Other Business: Phyllis suggested planting juniper in white planting boxes at the base of our Watchung signs.

Gazebo on Mountain Blvd needs electricity. We could save money if electricians, who are Watchung residents, would volunteer their service.

There is \$1,665.00 left in our budget to date.

Next meeting: October 4th, 7:30 via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vonnie Mott