

Traffic and Beautification Commission Meeting

September 11, 2023

Present: Phyllis Juetter, Gail Tafaro, Terry DeFilippis, Catherine Leigh, Sondra Epstein, Matthew Murphy, Vonnie Mott, Councilwoman Christine Ead, Kim DiDonato via phone

Absent: Mary Ann Weber, Janine Riedinger

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 by Chair, Phyllis Juetter.

The minutes of the previous meeting of June 5, 2023 were approved.

Scarecrow Stroll: Gail and Christine: Flyers advertising the event have been made and will be sent to Bayberry and Valleyview schools and will appear on the Borough website. Saturday, October 14th is the day for the contestants to install their scarecrows, rain date October 15th. It was agreed to serve cider and donuts to encourage attendance. Judging will take place on October 20th and the winners will be announced at the Harvest Festival on October 28th. Coldwell Banker is again sponsoring the prizes of 1st \$100, 2nd \$75, 3rd \$50.

Volunteer Drive: How to attract and encourage residents to volunteer outside of committees was discussed. For example, if T&B is planting flowers or decorating for holidays, a resident may volunteer to help with that task without being on the committee. More to be discussed at October meeting.

SAVE THE WATCHUNG GAZEBOS: The mountain boulevard gazebo needs a new roof and loose boards secured. After repairs are made, the structure is to be stained with deck paint. The gazebo on the village green needs the same except the roof does not need to be replaced. Several ideas on how to pay for the renovations: Gail suggested we have a table at the Harvest Festival and sell car magnets printed with Wetumpka Falls. Catherine remarked that QR code could be used for people to purchase the magnet. Another possibility was to set up a Go Fund Me page.

Trees on Somerset Street: Several trees are dying due to being hit by cars and the unusual weather pattern. The trees will be replaced.

Spratford Park: The planting bed in front of the Watchung Sign will be widened by 2 feet this Fall.

Triangle planting bed across from Borough Hall: Christine reported this was a difficult area to plan due to the 3 manhole covers in the planting bed. The area will be completed with plantings and mulch in approximately 2 weeks. T&B will plant flowers when the bed is completed.

Flagpole area at Best Lake: Christine and Phyllis will assess how large a planting bed is needed. DPW will prepare the bed and T&B can decide what to plant.

Other suggestions and comments:

Phyllis recommended planting liriopie in the small divider that is near the bottom of Hillcrest and the gas station.

Kim explained how the Harvey Cedars Taxpayers Association is organized and how it functions for the residents of Harvey Cedars.

Phyllis suggested the possibility of having "Field of Flags" at Best Lake. Townspeople donate a flag in honor of a family member or loved ones. The flags would be placed on Memorial Day, July 4 and Veteran's Day. This was tabled until the Spring.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30.

Respectively Submitted,

Vonnie Mott