** Beautification Committee**

**May 1, 2023**

**Council Conference Room**

**3:30 PM**

**Minutes**

* **Call to Order:** Janet called the meeting to order at 3:30

**Attendees:**Mike Apke, Jeff Batton, Kevin Brewer, Sara Copeland, Janet Farrell, Brenda Harvey, Jane Hogeman, Dee Johnson, Peggy Johnson, Chris Jones, Mary Hall Koontz, Amy McKenzie, Tony Persico, Molly Rowell, Joanne Valdes.

Visitor: Patrick Pizzella

* **Approval of Minutes** Tony moved to accept the minutes and Mary Hall seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
* **Budget 2022-2023 FY-**

Kevin reported that there were no new expenditures. There was an amendment on the

railroad expenditure from $6552.04 up to $7500.

* **Calendar**

Kevin reported that there is nothing new on the calendar. Tomorrow is planting day and

containers were planted last week.

* **Beautification Grant-**

Jeff reported that there are two recent grants – the Railroad and The Garden Club for   
 the triangle. A thank you note was read from Brenda and Sara from the Pinehurst Garden  
 Club, Dogwood Branch, for the grant for the triangle.

* **Old Business -**
* Project Updates
  + Landscape Plan from McAdams (part of Downtown Amenity Plan) – Kevin noted that the landscape is 99% complete. Benches are ordered. He has also ordered sample planters and light bollards to see which might work best. Planters will be needed for fall planting.
  + 100 Ritter Road Improvements & Solar Eclipse Sign – Mike stated that the Solar Eclipse sign has arrived.
* RR Trestle and hill clean-up – Jeff informed the committee that this project is scheduled for three nights during the last week of May. Pressure washing and painting will be done after dark. A determination is still being made about clearing the vegetation.
* Proposed Wayfinding Signs – Jeff reported that signs with guides to parking areas are ordered.
* Report from Business Guild – No report
* Warren H Manning Award Launch – Janet, Dee, Brenda

Kristen Bunton has the rules and applications which will be posted to the Grants and Beautification Committee pages on the website. Publicity is planned for the newsletter as well as a news article. Additional outreach will go through the Neighborhood Advisory Groups, and a box will be placed in the Town Hall for those wishing to use paper applications. The Committee agreed on deadlines of May 20th for publicity June 10th for applications. Awards will hopefully be presented by the end of June. The judges are confirmed, and judging criteria is ready to be reviewed with them. There will possibly be three awards a year.

* Market Square Enhancements – Kevin noted that his project will probably be scheduled for fall because planning is still going on. There is consideration being given for planters and locations for them. Joanne said businesses would like to be included in the process. Jane attends the meetings of the Business Guild and can keep the Committee informed. Dee warned that plants will need to be ordered to receive them by fall.
* Village Planting Guide – Dee, Chris   
  Kevin reported that Kristen Bunton found the original guide. Dee suggested that the guide should retain the Manning plants and that a close look should be given to others that need to be coded to be eliminated or watched or invasive. Chris will go through and check a few whose status should be removed or updated while retaining Manning and taking a sensible approach and hard review of the others. The goal is to complete the revised guide by the end of summer and then be offered to the public and distributed to new residents.
* BC Sponsored Workshops or Lectures in partnership with Sandhills Horticultural Society – Dee, Tony

There was discussion of possible partnership opportunities with the Horticultural Society.

Molly suggested that there is an entire group of new residents, and we should look at going back to the previous workshops for those moving here. Dee noted that we consider presentations that are exciting and would be well attended.

* Christmas Contest 2023

Amy will be able to do the Christmas Contest this year. An article should be in the newsletter this September. Janet will forward all information from last year to Amy.

* **New Business –**

Parking garage discussion has been postponed by council. There are areas around the Village for possible consideration. McAdams said there are enough spaces in the Village to suit the businesses. Businesses say they don’t need more spaces, but they need signage.

* **Comments from attendees.**
* **Motion to Adjourn.** Dee moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:45. Tony seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.
* *Meetings of BC are held the first Monday of the months indicated at 3:30 PM.* 
  + Meeting Dates 2023 – August 7, September 11, November 6, December 4. No meetings in January, June or July

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