** Beautification Committee**

**March 4, 2024**

**Fallon 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, Barb Ficklin, Kim Gilley, Cami Gregg, Brenda Harvey, Dee Johnson, Peggy Johnson, Chris Jones, Mary Hall Koontz, Deirdre MacNeil, Cara Mathis, Amy McKenzie**,** Molly Rowell

**Guests:** Patrick Pizzella, Tom Hennie

* **Approval of Minutes –** Molly moved to accept the minutes and Amy seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
* **Budget 2022-2023 FY-**  Kevin noted that there are no new expenditures to report.
* **Calendar –** Kevin presented the calendar. No new additions.

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| **Date** | **Action** | **People Involved** |
| Week of April 21st | Hanging baskets re-installed | Matt Whitaker, Kevin Brewer |
| April 25th | Plant containers downtown (Pine Branch) and stacked stone planters | Pine Branch Garden club, Kevin Brewer, Matt Whitaker |
| Week of April 28th | Plant Gateway Signs | B&G Staff |
| Week of May 5th | Plant Annuals Tuft’s Park | Kevin Brewer, B&G Staff |
| May 14th | Planting Day Downtown | Cami Gregg, Matt Whitaker, Kevin Brewer, B&G Staff to unload plants  Garden Club Members |
| July 19th | Order flowers for fall planting | Kevin Brewer |

* **Beautification Grant-** No new grants
* **Old Business -**
* Downtown Amenity Plan Improvements – Jeff reported that bollards are now on Dogwood. The

Four-way stop project is out to bid and probably won’t take place until August.

* House Bill 259, Native Plants in DOT ROW – Patrick Pizzella shared that Council sent letters to Senator McInnis and Representative Jackson asking for modifications or exclusion to the bill.
* Rain Garden – Kevin – No new report
* Landscaping USGA side of Hwy 5 – Between trestle and Old US 2. Kevin shared a plan. The encroachment agreement was sent to DOT and we are waiting for approval. Nothing is planned for the other side of the trestle. Molly asked if the base of the stop light at the intersection can be painted. Jeff shared that “Pinestraw” is the current color of the trestle. Dee noted that “Leather Brown” matches the pine straw well.
* Warren H. Manning Award 2024 – Dee, Cara, Sara, Molly and Janet got together and established dates for the Manning Award.

March 27 - Article in the Pilot – Master Gardeners

May 15 – Article in the Pilot (include photos from 2023)

May 15 - VOP Website Banner (include link to the submission form)

June 10 – Deadline for submission

June 20 and 21 – Judging

June 24 – Notify award recipients. Call or email.

June 24 – Pilot article for publication

June 26 – Pilot article published (recipient names and photo)

June 26 - Banner with recipients. Announce addresses.

Information can be found in the Beautification Committee link on the Village Website. Janet noted that we need to make sure the fillable pdf is updated. There are three $50 prizes to be awarded along with yard signs. The committee has planned a strong publicity push to promote the Award. Some ideas are flyers, notify the master gardener community and garden clubs, Next Door, VOP event calendar and Instagram, etc.

* Report from Business Guild – Kim shared upcoming events:

Village egg hunt – March 4- 30 Village teamed with Thomas Pottery to hide eggs on trails for

the public to find.

St. Patrick’s Day Parade - March 16th

Easter Egg Hunt on March 23rd.

Sandhills Dog Fair – April 13 at the Arboretum

Rocking Chairs will be out in May and stay through the Open

* Beautification Committee Membership Guidelines – Janet, Molly, Deirdre and Brenda are working on the guidelines.
* **New Business –.**
* Pinecone Logo on RR Trestle- Jeff and Molly – Molly is thinking the pinecone logo would be placed on the slanted sides of the trestle walls. Jeff shared some ideas of how it could look. He needs to confirm the guidelines for the logo. He suggested using metal and he contacted Protec who does laser cutting of metal. The railroad has okayed attaching a pinecone to the overpass.
* Enhance Dundee Rd Area – at Pinehurst Elementary. Amy would like to explore making this a project for the Beautification Committee. The members offered suggestions for plantings since there is no irrigation on site. Dee suggested grasses that don’t need as much care. Jeff recommended a walkway since people are walking through the area now. Molly suggested partnering with the school. The Committee agreed that this is a project we could take on. Cara is willing to help Amy. She noted that the Pinehurst Garden Club is looking at ways to use their money and may be willing to contribute. It was suggested that we first come up with a plan that could be shared with the school. Funding would possibly come through partnership with Pinehurst Garden Club and the school applying for a Beautification Grant so that there is no cost to the school. The timing would probably be in Fall. Cara will email the principal to explore the possibility. Amy and Cara will take the lead on this project.
* Molly wants the committee to consider “dirty hands”. She would like to see us explore a project the Committee could do all together.
* Arbor Day – The Mayor will create a proclamation. Kevin will coordinate with Pinehurst Elementary Principal to hold an event on April 25. Jesse Wimberley will give an educational talk on long leaf pines and animals who live in the system. Each student in 5th grade will get a long leaf pine seedling.
* Cami – Noticed that the roses are not thriving in the Memorial Garden
* Committee Chair 2024-2026 – Janet reported that according to guidelines there should be a new Committee Chair next year. There will be discussion about the possibility of Janet and Dee continuing to share the Committee Chairmanship.
* **Comments from attendees.** None
* **Motion to Adjourn.** Chris moved to adjourn the meeting and Amy seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned.
* *Meetings of BC are held the first Monday of the months indicated at 3:30 PM.* 
  + Meeting Dates 2024 – April 1, May 6, August 5, September 9, October 7, November 4, December 2. No meetings in January, June or July.

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