

TRUMBULL BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
MINUTES - February 24, 2009

PRESENT: Elizabeth Casey, Ken Martin, Patricia Wright, Liz Nugent

ABSENT: Sharon Altieri, Debi Miller, Bob Marconi, Patricia Pavia

GUEST: Warren Jacques

The meeting of the Trumbull Beautification Commission was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by K. Martin. Attendance was noted and a quorum was had.

READING AND ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: The minutes of the January 27, 2009 meeting were discussed. E. Casey motioned that the minutes of the January 27, 2009 meeting be accepted as presented. L. Nugent seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT: The Financial Report was not available.

Warren Jacques of Long Hill Tree Service was a guest at the meeting. He presented a landscape design for the island at Tashua Road & Main Street that he would like to adopt. He has also adopted the island on Chestnut Hill & Main Street.

He identified the plantings he is considering utilizing in this area. There is a granite curb on the island, which is approximately 25' x 10' in size. He indicated that there is a lot of snow buildup/salt/sand on this area and that contributed to his selection of plantings. A copy of the design is attached.

Discussion was also had regarding the sign to be placed in the area. He will investigate using a different composite for the sign so it will last longer, and also look into the re-painting of his sign that is on the Chestnut Hill/Main Street island, which is beginning to fade. After discussion, E. Casey motioned that the Commission accept the landscape design as presented for the area of Tashua Road & Main Street, pending approval of the sign design, which Mr. Jacques indicated he would fax to K. Martin to be presented at the next meeting. P. Wright seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

TOWN HALL MARQUEE: Mr. Jacques indicated that there are 5-balled evergreen trees in planters on the Gazebo and although the condition of the trees is not known, he indicated that the Commission could have them and utilize them as they wished. Discussion was had regarding possibly putting some of them around the area of the Town Hall Marquee, which is a project that the Commission is very interested in pursuing. This will be followed up as spring breaks and the condition of the trees is determined.

As Dimitris Paris was not in attendance at the meeting, we did not have any further information regarding the plantings/old marquee design, etc. as discussed in the prior meeting. We will review this again at the next meeting.

RAMP PROJECT: K. Martin drafted a list of the existing taken island/ramp areas, as well as those, which are available and areas that could be possible spots for plantings in the future.

K. Martin indicated that Attorney Robert Nicola has gone directly to the state and taken out a permit for Exit 51 on the Merritt Parkway. This area has been under controversy with Vazzy's and the Marriott. E. Casey indicated she was uncomfortable with Attorney Nicola taking out a permit for this particular location not only because of the controversy involved, but also because at the last meeting of the Commission, it was agreed that the Commission would take out a permit for all the available locations (checking too to see if that meant maintaining as well) so that the Commission would have control over the application/permit process and be assured that all specifications/requirements were followed correctly.

Discussion was also had regarding whether a form letter sent or phone discussion had with the present occupants of ramp locations to inquire as to whether they intended to continue with their adopted area and if so, to have them follow the proper protocol regarding signs/permits, etc. While in attendance at the meeting, Warren Jacques confirmed that he would continue both with his present location as well as the new adopted area. He will send a letter to K. Martin confirming that as well. A time frame also needs to be established if a ramp area is not being maintained properly, for that sponsor to be notified and how long they have within which to rectify the problem. If it is not rectified, then possibly their sign should be pulled (as in other towns) and the area offered to other sponsors.

It was determined that E. Casey would follow up with the State with regard to the status of the permits taken directly with them, i.e. Ganim; Mullins & Nicola. She would also confirm the available ramp areas, status of any outstanding permits; as well as obtaining the procedure for the Commission to take out permits for all of the available areas so that a measure of control would be obtained.

All of these issues will be address at the next meeting of the Commission

UI GRANT: As the Commission is not a 501c3, we are not eligible for the UI grant.

DAFFODIL GIVEAWAY: As P. Pavia was not in attendance at the meeting, we did not have information as to cost of bulbs for a giveaway in the fall. This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS:

There were no nominations for awards. L. Nugent volunteered to look at redesigning the Beautification Award and will present her thoughts/designs at the next meeting. E. Casey will send her the Town emblem for possible use in the design.

NATURE CENTER UPDATE:

There was no update at this meeting.

SCENIC ROAD DESIGNATION FOR RT. 108: K. Martin reiterated that he submitted a partial application to the State. He needs to take photographs and resubmit to the State, however he is waiting until the spring in order to show the beauty of the road.

JOSEPH KRISAK MEMORIAL PLANTING: This planting will be accomplished in the spring. This remains on the agenda in order to get updates from B. Marconi on the purchase of the plantings as soon as the opportunity presents itself and the planting can be accomplished.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Tidy Up Trumbull:

K. Martin indicated that he spoke with Monica Leggett re: Tidy Up Trumbull. That campaign is scheduled for April 20-25. Last year the Commission donated a banner to that cause. This year, it was felt that we would give the banner to them for use on a yearly basis. Discussion was also had regarding a possible donation to the cause e.g., donating bulbs/trees/park bench. K. Martin will follow up with them regarding what their plan is/their intentions, etc. The members thought that donating bulbs would be a good idea. This will be followed up at the next meeting.

Some members of the Commission still need to be re-appointed. Please be sure to take care of this prior to the next meeting.

P. Wright motioned that the meeting be adjourned. E. Casey seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Butler, Clerk