

TRAFFIC AND BEAUTIFICATION MEETING

MINUTES

JUNE 16, 2020

ATTENDENCE:

PHYLLIS JUETTE
JULIE SCHLOTTERBECK
TERRY DEFILIPPIS
VONNIE MOTT
GAIL TAFARO
MARY ANN WEBER
CHARLIE GUNTHER
LINDSAY GOODLOE

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

FLOWERS ON THE CIRCLE

THANKS TO CHARLIE AND DPW FOR PLANTING FLOWERS ON THE TRIANGLE. EVERYTHING LOOKS REALLY NICE. PHYLLIS MENTIONED THAT EVERYONE SHOULD TAKE TURNS DEADHEADING THE MARIGOLDS AS TIME GOES BY.

SOMERSET STREET ISLANDS

DISCUSSION ABOUT PLANTING GRASS TO TAKE CARE OF THE WEEDS. CHARLIE INDICATED THAT TOP SOIL WOULD BE ABOUT \$400 AND SOD WOULD BE ABOUT \$700. IN THE FALL, THE PLAN IS TO REPLACE THE DEAD RED OAK TREES. GAIL MENTIONED THAT SHE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE MEDIANS CONSISTANT AND TERRY INDICATED THAT THE FLOWERS ON THE END OF THE MEDIANS SHOULD ALSO BE CONSISTANT AND NEED MORE COLOR.

WATERING

PHYLLIS ASKED ABOUT WATER BAGS FOR THE TREES. CHARLIE INDICATED THAT THE TREES THAT ARE ESTABLISHED SHOULD BE OK WITHOUT BAGS. HE HAS BAGS ON TWO NEW TREES AT SPRATFORD PARK AT THE MOMENT.

9/11 MEMORIAL

MARY ANN INDICATED THAT THE BRICKS ARE IN. THE ENGRAVED ONES ARE ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE MEMORIAL AND ON THE RIGHT WILL BE BLANK BRICKS AS AN APPRECIATION GARDEN WHICH WOULD BE PURCHASED BY RESIDENTS IN THE FUTURE AS A FURTHER FUND RAISER TOWARD THE MURAL ETC. WE ARE TRYING TO ESTABLISH THE REMAINING FUNDS IN THE ACCOUNT. LINDSAY SAID SHE WILL FOLLOWUP WITH BILL HANCE TO FIND THAT OUT. THE PLANTINGS THAT WERE PURCHASED RECENTLY ARE CURRENTLY BEING HELD AT THE PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING. CHARLIE HAS CONCERNS ABOUT THE PLANTS AND WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE HARDY AND SUITABLE FOR THE SITE. WATER IS BEING SET UP FOR THE AREA.

SEAN ALEXANDER WHO IS OVERSEEING THE MEMORIAL PROJECT INDICATED THAT DAVID MOBIS IS WORKING ON GETTING THE WATER THERE SO THE PLANTS CAN GO IN. SEAN HAD INDICATED THAT THERE WILL BE TWO BEDS THAT T&B WOULD PLANT SEASONALLY. CONSENSUS AMONG THE T&B GROUP WAS THAT A MASTER LANDSCAPING PLAN SHOULD BE DEVELOPED TO BEST ORGANIZE THE MEMORIAL AREA. TERRY SUGGESTED RUTGERS HAS A SERVICE THAT WILL COME OUT AND DEVELOP A PLAN.

BLUE STAR MEMORIAL

THE COUNTY HAS INDICATED THAT THE BARRELS AT THE MEMORIAL SHOULD BE REMOVED AS THEY ARE UNSAFE AND COULD BECOME A PROJECTILE IF A CAR HITS THEM. VONNIE INDICATED THAT THEY MAY MOVE THEM TO THE LIBRARY AREA AND PLANT FLOWERS. AREA COULD USE SOME UPKEEP. CHARLIE MADE SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT AND WILL FOLLOWUP WITH VONNIE AND PHYLLIS TO MEET AT THE MEMORIAL AND MAKE AN IMPROVEMENT PLAN.

WATCHUNG SIGN AT BOTTOM OF HILLCREST

TERRY HAS BEEN TRYING TO KEEP UP THIS AREA BUT IT STILL NEEDS WORK. PERHAPS MORE BUSHES CAN BE PLANTED.

WATCHUNG SIGNS

CHARLIE INDICATED THAT THE COUNTY HAS CONCERNS ABOUT THE NEW WELCOME SIGNS FOR WATCHUNG. THE ONE ON SOMERSET STREET WOULD BLOCK A 25 MPH SIGN AND WILL NEED TO BE PLACED IN A DIFFERENT AREA. THE COUNTY ALSO DOES NOT LIKE THAT THE SIGNS DO NOT HAVE BREAKAWAY POSTS. CHARLIE INDICATED THAT HE HAS INVESTIGATED OTHER WAYS TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM. THE SIGN FOR ENTERING WATCHUNG ON BONNIE BURN/VALLEY ROAD END OF TOWN PRESENTS A PROBLEM AND WILL NEED TO BE RELOCATED FROM THE ORIGINAL SPOT ON BONNIE BURN. THE ALTERNATE SITE RIGHT NOW IS ON VALLEY ROAD BY THE CONNELL PROPERTY. T&B MEMBERS DID NOT LIKE THIS SITE IDEA AND SUGGESTED PUTTING IT ON VALLEY ROAD BY THE DIRT PARKING AREA ON THE RIGHT. NEED TO FOLLOWUP ON THIS FOR AN ALTERNATE SITE FOR THE NEW SIGN.

PHYLLIS ALSO MENTIONED THAT BEST LAKE DOES NOT HAVE A SIGN IDENTIFYING IT AS BEST LAKE WHEREAS WATCHUNG LAKE HAS A SIGN.

BOROUGH HALL

WE STILL NEED TO WORK ON NEW BUSHES FOR BOROUGH HALL ESPECIALLY ON THE RIGHT OF STAIRS FROM THE PARKING LOT TO LANDING AS WELL AS PLANTS ON THE RIGHT AS YOU GO UP THE STAIRS. AREA NEEDS COLOR AND REPLACEMENT PLANTS FOR ONES THAT HAVE DIED AND BEEN REMOVED. PHYLLIS ASKED ABOUT THE RAIN BARRELS WHICH ARE NOT OUT BUT HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST. CHARLIE INDICATED THAT THEY COULD BE PUT BACK OUT BUT THERE IS CONCERN ABOUT MOSQUITO LARVE DEVELOPING IN THEM.

BUDGET

THIS THURSDAY EVENING THE BUDGETS HOPEFULLY WILL BE APPROVED. WE BELIEVE T&B WILL BE ALLOTTED \$5,000. NOT SURE IF THE COST OF THE FLOWERS ON THE TRIANGLE WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THAT AMOUNT. WE NEED TO FIND OUT WHAT OUR BALANCE IS FOR PLANNING THE BALANCE OF THE YEAR EXPENSES. CHARLIE INDICATED THAT HIS BUDGET HAS BEEN CUT AS WELL SO WE NEED TO AWARE OF THE CURRENT SITUATION FOR THE BOROUGH IN PLANNING PROJECTS. DUE TO COVID19, BOROUGH FUNDS ARE LIMITED AND LINDSAY INDICATED THAT EVEN NEXT YEAR MAY BE AFFECTED BY ANTICIPATED TAX APPEALS BY BUSINESS, ETC.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
MARY ANN WEBER