

Town of Londonderry
Beautification Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2016

Present: Committee members Berthe Cowles, Paul Gordon, John and Caroline Jopling, Helen Hamman and Martha Dale. Joel Kuhlberg was excused.

The minutes of the July 21, 2016 meeting were approved by the members.

Treasurer's Report Helen reported that budgeted amount for the boxes was \$1,500, with \$1,089 actual expense; triangle budge figure was \$700, and we will spend that amount by the close of the season when fall clean-up work is completed. \$1,492 remains at this time. Paul will be submitting an expense for reflective tape of approximately \$120. Helen will prepare a proposed 2017 budget by November to submit to the Board of Selectmen.

The triangle It continues to look great. Helen will put out a request for proposals for 2017 spring and fall work on the triangle. She hopes to get three bids for the work. The Baptisia will be left in its present location and it will be pruned annually. The day lilies have filled in nicely. With money available for fall plantings in the triangle, it was suggested to add kale and mums. Clean-up of the triangle will hopefully be done this week so to enable planting of these fall annuals. Helen will source the plants and work with Caroline and John to install them.

Flags Joel indicated that the flags will be down the day after Columbus Day. The Rotary will also be removing the planter barrels at that time.

Bridge flower boxes Watering volunteers continue to do a fantastic job. The Rotary will remove these on October 11th and store them for the winter in the town garage. Bob reported that one box fell off its hinges this summer, but he quickly repaired and rehung the box. Thanks! The members agreed that the boxes on the concrete wall have been a super enhancement and should be continued next year. Perhaps an additional two boxes can be removed from Utley Bridge and moved to the wall.

Town entrance signs Paul has ordered the reflective material for the signs and today presented the committee with color choices for the signs. The group chose "Balsam" as the color. The first will be removed for repair and repainting later this week.

The painted wall The committee discussed future options for looking after the painted wall. At a minimum, the group would like to keep the flower boxes on top, weed along the edge at the roadside and oversee any repainting needs that can be carried out by Garrison Buxton, the original wall painter. The group agreed that we would not be in the business of repairing the wall – but rather ambassadors for any structural needs and seek state or town assistance.

Lupine planting Caroline and John have gathered seeds and will be planting them on the hillside opposite Clark's IGA. It will be important that the Committee notify the town road crew to not mow either spot until late in the season.

Other business Martha will contact Marc Pickering at VTrans to inquire about flower options along the South Londonderry bridge. She will also ask Rugg Valley Landscaping what it might cost for a watering contract for all bridge boxes and planter barrels.

The committee suggested that new members for our group be considered. Martha will prepare a year-end write-up of Beautification Committee work for posting in the Londonderry newsletter. An appeal for new members will be included.

The next regular meeting of the Beautification Committee will be **October 11th at 10am** at the Town Office Building. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Dale