Weston CT Beautification Committee Meeting February 5, 2020

Attendance: Claudia Hahn, Nancy Thiel, Cynthia Williams, Karin Gianitti, Jim Jamieson, guest – Anne Hunt, Partial – Jonathan Luis and Bill Lomas.

Minutes from January 8, 2020 were approved.

GREYLEDGE

Claudia reported on the phone conference with our TD Bank investment managers. We asked them to lower their fees and change our investment structure to something more suitable for our needs. We will also be looking into alternate investment firms and asked Jonathan to arrange for us to meet with Judge Lisa Wexler to review our options.

TOWN GREEN

We have been working on fine-tuning the plans for the Town Green so that an RFP can go out to landscape companies. New planting plans have been detailed by Karin Feingold and Claudia. We are working on understanding if the Town Green will require a larger maintenance budget.

OFFUTT TRUST/FUNDRAISING

We have requested a revised "letter of intent" from the Offutt Trust. We have asked if the Trust could match up to the \$250,000 in \$25,000 increments.

Nancy spoke with Claire Gordon. She is thinking of making a donation to the Town Green project in memory of her son, past Selectman, Brian Gordon.

Sarah Hutchison is working on getting grants for the meadow area of the Town Green. She has raised about \$5,000 so far. She can match up to \$18,000 which means, she will be raising \$36,000 which will be doubled with the Offutt matching funds.

There was discussion about the lamp posts and signs that are going in along with the driveway between the library and the town hall. Jonathan is going to put a temporary sign at the Police Station.

LIBRARY/ONION BARN/CEMETERY PLANTINGS

We are still waiting for library transplanting/removal to be done. That should happen this spring. The Town is planning \$50,000 in improvements at the Onion Barn including improved drainage, a new driveway apron, new gravel, and picnic tables. Now that the cemetery has been cleaned up, we are going to add some red bud trees at the entrance.

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

The Sustainability Committee asked if someone from Beautification could attend their meetings. No one volunteered to attend but we are happy to work with them.

SPEAK UP

Claudia and Nancy will attend the League of Women Voter's Speak Up on Saturday, February 8.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We discussed filling Lyette Segerdahl's position. Bill Lomas is interested and is available in June after he rotates off the position of Town Tree Warden.

Respectfully Submitted, Claudia Hahn and Nancy Thiel