**Minutes**

**Beautification committee**

**December 7, 2023**

**Noon on Zoom**

Present: Karin Giannitti, Pat Glass, Jim Jamieson, Ryan Gussen, Claudia Hahn

Karin made a motion to approve minutes from November 2, 2023. Pat seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

Claudia reported that Marylou Jamieson has filed an application to become a new Beautification member. Once Marylou is approved by the Selectmen, she will be formally on our committee.

Claudia reported on holiday Town décor:

The Town Green looked spectacular with all the lights provided by the Crown Family. Wow. The Town Green looked like something out of a Hallmark Christmas movie. Biggest thanks to the Crowns!

$466.60 was spent on wreaths, garland, poinsettias for offices purchased from East Coast Wholesale Florist.

Plus 4, 24” decorated wreaths from Trader Joe’s @ $11.99 = $47.96 and 6 small poinsettias for town offices at $4.99 = $29.94

Karin supplied some new red ribbon for bows and loaned a beautiful quilt she made for the tree skirt in the Town Hall entry. Karin also purchased a new artificial wreath for the Old Post Office and would like to store it in the off season in the Town Hall basement.

The tree in the Town Hall is on its last legs. A new tree will need to be purchased next fall during pre-holiday sales.

Town Green update

 The Tree Lighting and Concert was an enormous success. The decorations, (provided by The Crown Family), all over Town Green and the main tree were mind-blowing. It was estimated that 900 attended. Hot chocolate and cookies were provided by the Crown Family and Stew Leonard’s. The Weston High School Chamber singers, the WesTones, Weston HS Jazz Band, Weston Intermediate School Chorus, and Strolling Carolers from SBE Studio all performed.

It was amazing to witness the Town Green being used as we had planned it to be.

Steppingstone path fundraiser

 Karin has been in touch with Lisa at Artista Studios about pricing for steppingstones and engraving. Pricing is to come.

Historic District Commission meets Jan 9 and 23. Should we meet with them about parameters for Gazebo replacement?

The “Dedication Marker” Stone is still needing to be located. Should we put out a town-wide ask for a donation? We will need a 6’ high boulder that could be cut down to podium dimensions. Perhaps ask the Marketing committee for help? Larry Roberts said the Town now has equipment large enough to handle moving large boulders. Everyone please keep an eye out for boulders.

We will need to assess plant replacement in spring on the Town Green, Library Lion Garden, and Senior Center front gardens.

Larry Roberts and Interim Town Administrator, Lee Palmer have been working on a new Town Maintenance Contract. We will be able to review the draft when it is ready. The Town does have a tree maintenance contract with Weston Arborists.

The two barrels at the Senior Center have been removed as they were falling apart. The barrel at the intersection of Good Hill and Old Hyde was destroyed one night. It being the second time in a year this has happened, Larry Roberts and Claudia decided it should not replaced.

The gardens at the Senior Center will need some TLC and replanting in the spring.

We will need to undecorate the Town Hall in early January. Looking at 1/8?

Next meeting Jan 11, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

Claudia and Ryan