

MINUTES  
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 18, 2024

Present:

Karin Giannitti, Pat Glass, Ryan Gussen, Claudia Hahn

Pat made a motion to approve the Minutes from December 7, 2023. Ryan seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Town Green

Karin Feingold and Sarah Ragan have been working on educational signage for the new Native Gardens.

They are applying for a Sustainable CT Grant to help fund the signs, replacement plants, two birdbaths, labor, and the steppingstones. Once the budget and designs are complete Claudia will assist in applying for the grant. Sustainable CT requires that the matching donations come from the community and uses a crowd-funding platform for not-for-profits called Patronicity. They will help us with the process.

The Weston Garden Club is dissolving and will need to disperse their financial holdings. It is anticipated that they will donate \$2000 to the Sustainable CT Grant for the Native Gardens.

The Pollinator Pathway is a sub-division of the Garden Club so they must also dissolve.

There was a discussion whether to proceed with the idea of purchasing 18"x24" stepping stones for the paths in the gardens from Gault or Artista Studios. Karin obtained a bid from Artista for \$500 per stone, which would include the engraving for donors. Gault can provide stones for \$80 each but does not include engraving. Finding engravers is proving to be difficult. Ryan made a motion to use natural stepping stones, which will cost approximately \$25/stone from Gault and will be covered under the Sustainable CT Grant. Karin seconded, all in favor, motion passed.

The lamp posts for the sidewalk in front of Town Hall supposedly have been shipped but have not arrived at Town Hall. The luminaires are stored in the basement of Town Hall.

Gazebo replacement is going to be over-seen by the Selectmen. We should submit any designs we have.

We cannot find a boulder that suits the specifications for the Dedication Marker at the Veterans Memorial. We will ask the Marketing Committee to help with putting out a blast. Claudia will ask Nancy Thiel to design the ask with required dimensions. Larry Roberts says the Town has equipment big enough to handle large loads and can pick up a boulder the size needed.

We still have not addressed the donor plaques on the benches.

### Maintenance Contract

Claudia, Karin Feingold and Ryan are helping make tweaks to the DRAFT of the Maintenance Contract before Larry Roberts puts it out to bid.

### Planting

The Senior Center gardens need to be refurbished in the spring. There was discussion about problems with maintaining new gardens so we need to be careful when requests are made. Tree planting might be more preferable.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claudia and Ryan