



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Ledyard Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes

Chairperson
Kathrine Kohrs

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

5:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kohrs at 5:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

- Present** Committee Member Carol Ann Schneider
 Chairman Kathrine Kohrs
 Committee Member Jennifer Bingham
 Committee Member Lauren Hawes
- Excused** Committee Member Sarah Martic
- Late** Committee Member Carol Christiansen
 Committee Member Jennifer Eastbourne

Also in attendance:
Naomi Rodriguez, Town Council Chairperson
Scott Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public present but Ms. Hawes asked a question for a resident - are the Gales Ferry Village signs overseen by the Ledyard Beautification Committee? Some of the signs need to be repainted. Chairperson Kohrs answered that the signs are under the Ledyard jurisdiction, but the gardens may fall under the Committee and added that she would like to revisit the sponsor list. Chairperson Kohrs said that one of her neighbors is in the Garden Club and would like to collaborate with the Committee. The Garden Club is looking for a new location for their community Garden. Mr. Johnson said that the Boy Scouts are interested in putting in a public garden behind the Senior Center. Chairperson Kohrs reiterated that the Nathan Lester House is looking for assistance with their gardens. This might be a good idea for a spring cleanup project.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes from December 3, 2024, as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED
MOVER: Carol Ann Schneider
SECONDER: Jennifer Bingham

AYE 4 Schneider Kohrs Bingham Hawes

EXCUSED 2 Christiansen Martic

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Future Projects Discussion.

Chairperson Kohrs thanked Scott Johnson, Parks and Recreation Director for attending the meeting and said she would like to start off by discussing the Earth Day Event.

Earth Day Event - Chairperson Kohrs reviewed last year's event for Mr. Johnson.

- The "Trash to Treasure" recycling event should be repeated and made even bigger this year. Chairperson Kohrs suggested that the event be geared towards children and put in the Parks and Recreation catalog. Free sign up. Chairperson Kohrs suggested collecting and asking for recyclable donations such as milk and egg cartons then holding an open art night where children will create the treasures. Ms. Eastbourne suggested holding the event during one of the "Friday parents' night out" events. Possibly the one scheduled for April 4th. The plan is for the participants to make their treasures that night and bring it back to the event on April 26. The Committee will not hold the treasures at the Senior Center. Possibly the Committee could host another event without Parks & Recreation on April 19 or 20 where the parents stay and assist their children (not a drop-off event). Ms. Bingham suggested holding it on Earth Day (April 22) after school and reminding participants to attend the Earth Day event on April 26. Possibly hold this event in collaboration with the Gales Ferry Library. Maybe the Schools can collect the recyclables for the Committee? Ms. Eastbourne said that the Middle School Junior LBC Club could possibly take the lead on this. She added that often Mr. Rahl, Special Education Teacher is looking for leadership projects such as this to do with the Special needs students. Ms. Eastbourne will contact Mr. Rahl.

- A Town Wide cleanup initiative including a "fill the dumpster". Last year the dumpster was donated. Mr. Johnson said that there is a dumpster at the Town Green that could be used. Chairperson Kohrs will assess the size of that dumpster.

-Possibly hold some of the events inside since last year was cold and windy. The inside events could include a SCRRA demonstration, composting information and activities and the trash to treasure event.

- It was suggested to hold the event at one of the schools. Mr. Johnson said that the Committee would be charged to reserve a spot at one of the schools and suggested holding it at the Community Center or the Senior Center instead. Mr. Johnson said he believes that the Senior Center is available on April 26, 2025, from 1:00-4:00.

- Sandwich boards and balloons were suggested to direct residents to the Senior Center.

- Food - Last year there was a shaved ice food truck present, but it was too cold and windy. Mr. Johnson suggested cotton candy.

- Arc - Ms. Schneider will contact Arc to ask if they could hold a demonstration on April 26.

- The "pickers" will be available for residents to pick up from the Senior Center during normal business hours up to a month in advance.

- Trash to Treasure judging. Maybe ask Mayor Allyn III to be the judge.

- Chairperson Kohrs will reach out to the Agricultural Science program to see if they would want to participate in the event.

- Nature Center? Owls?

- Recycling bingo.
- Ms. Eastbourne said the Girl Scouts may be interested in participating, possibly hold a recycling relay race.
- Invite other Town Committees such as the Conservation Commission to have a booth.
- Beekeepers?
- Clean up contest. Who can fill the most garbage bags?
- Advertise the event in the Events magazine?

Other events:

- Chairperson Kohrs said she would like to hold the first LBC Junior Club in January. The goal is to hold a meeting once a month.
- Valentine's teacup event - assemble and deliver on the same day, February 8 or 9. Reserve the Senior Center for assembly. Ms. Hawes received a large donation of Valentine mugs. Last year the Committee used dry oasis, boxwood and baby's breath, it was suggested that the Committee explore other options for this year. Ms. Bingham will do some research and send Chairperson Kohrs the results. Ms. Hawes will contact Mr. Jannke about asking Honor Society students to volunteer.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Any Other Old Business to Come before the Committee.

None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Election of Officers -
 Chairperson
 Vice-Chairperson
 Treasurer
 Secretary

Motion to ELECT Katherine Kohrs as Chairperson, Lauren Hawes as Vice Chairperson, Carol Schneider as Treasurer, and Jennifer Bingham as Secretary.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Kathrine Kohrs

SECONDER: Jennifer Bingham

AYE 4 Schneider Kohrs Bingham Hawes

EXCUSED 1 Martie

2. Any Other New Business to Come before the Committee.

None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

DISCLAIMER: Although we try to be timely and accurate these are not official records of the Town.