



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Ledyard Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes

Chairman
Jennifer Eastbourne

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

5:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Eastbourne at 5:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present Committee Member Carol Ann Schneider
 Chairman Jennifer Eastbourne
 Committee Member Kathrine Kohrs
 Committee Member Jennifer Bingham
Absent Committee Member Carol Christiansen
 Committee Member Julie Brousseau
 Committee Member Sarah Martic

Also in attendance:

Naomi Rodriguez, Chairperson Town Council

Kaylee Duggan, student from Stonington High School and Tricia Duggan, Stonington resident were observing the meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE Regular Meeting Minutes from March 5, 2024, as written.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Jennifer Eastbourne

SECONDER: Kathrine Kohrs

AYE 4 Schneider Eastbourne Kohrs Bingham

ABSENT 3 Christiansen Brousseau Martic

V. FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Ledyard Beautification Committee Financial Reports.

No changes since last month.

VI. OLD BUSINESS**1. Future Projects Discussion.**

The Committee decided not to participate in the Memorial Day parade this year.

Some future project ideas;

Possible clean-up after the Regatta Event. Chairperson Eastbourne said she has not been able to get a hold of Jessica Buhle over the past year. Naomi Rodriguez, Chairperson Town Council said she would let her know Chairperson Eastbourne is trying to reach her to arrange a Regatta clean-up.

Juliet W. Long School has an orange mural that could use an update. Ms. Kohrs suggested painting something similar to the "Groton" mural in Groton but with a Ledyard School theme. The Committee would need to get permission from the school and find an artist. Chairperson Eastbourne will reach out to Mark, Westkott, School Principal. It was suggested to ask the High School Art Department for assistance.

Corner of Military Highway. Would need large heavy concrete planters. A concern is this area is very hot in the summer and it would be hard to find plants that would survive without watering (this area is too hard to water). Idea to put something non-living in this area but will need to check with Steve Masalin, Public Works Director to see what is allowable in this area.

Painted rock snake. Maybe work with the Children's Librarian? It would need to be placed somewhere that wouldn't interfere with grass mowing. Ms. Bingham said that Warwick, Rhode Island has a rock snake next to a sidewalk on a main road. It is almost a mile long. Chairperson Eastbourne will reach out to the Children's Librarian. The Committee could provide the rocks and paint. Idea to have children paint the rocks at the Farmer's Market or at Summer Camps.

Overview of the Earth Day event: quite a few people participated in the cleanup and the dumpster was filled. The Committee felt that they achieved their goals for the event. Next year the Committee could use more time to plan. People didn't want to stick around after filling the dumpster, the cold weather was partially to blame. Maybe next year the table events can be held the weekend before the fill the dumpster event. Possibly hold more contests next year. Perhaps have a "second annual" event flyer displayed at several local businesses.

Decorate a Christmas Tree and hold a vote, could even be a tree outside of local businesses.

Daffodil festival. Mr. Kohrs is following the Meriden festival to see what they do for ideas for next year. Some of Meriden's events are rides, music, Little Miss Daffodil and an Honor Escort.

Sell daffodils in the fall and collect donations for plantings.

Identify key places to plant bulbs.

Breakfast fundraiser will be held on July 6, 2024.

Commit to a Farmer's Market date. The Market starts on June 5, 2024. Town Committees are allowed to hold a booth once a month without a fee. The Committee would need to complete an application. Ms. Martic is on the Farmer's Market Committee; she could be asked to help navigate the process. Chairperson Eastbourne warned the Committee that the Town tent is very nice but also very heavy and hard to manage putting up.

Welcome to Gales Ferry sign areas could use some attention.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Nip Bottle Tax Surcharge Discussion continued.

No discussion.

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

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Nomination and election of a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Chairperson Eastbourne announced that she has resigned, and this is her last meeting as Chairperson. She plans to stay on the Committee as a Regular Member. She asked if the members knew of anyone interested in the Committee to send them over.

Naomi Rodriguez, Chairperson Town Council said someone has applied to both the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Ledyard Beautification Committee. There will be more information after the Town Council meeting on May 22, 2024.

Chairperson Eastbourne said it is very difficult to chair a Committee of seven people when only a few partake in activities, planning and facilitating. She asked that the Committee be cognizant about activity participant in the side projects. Ms. Schneider added that she believes that the lack of participation scares away Chairpeople. It was also said that you don't have to be on the Committee to attend meetings and help with projects and/or events.

None of the current Committee members are interested in becoming the Chairperson or the Vice Chairperson. The Committee has room for two more members, although one has already been voted on. The current members will promote the opening and see what next month brings.

Ms. Kohrs will mention on the Committee's Facebook page that they are looking for a new member.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

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

None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN The Regular Meeting at 5:33 p.m.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Jennifer Eastbourne

SECONDER: Kathrine Kohrs

AYE 4 Schneider Eastbourne Kohrs Bingham

ABSENT 3 Christiansen Brousseau Martic

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