



TOWN OF LEDYARD

741 Colonel Ledyard Highway
Ledyard, Connecticut 06339

Ledyard Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes

Chairperson
Kathrine Kohrs

Regular Meeting

Tuesday, February 4, 2025

5:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Hybrid Format

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chairperson Hawes at 5:04 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 Jennifer Eastbourne
 Committee Member Sarah Martic

Late Committee Member Carol Christiansen

Also in attendance:
Naomi Rodriguez, Town Council Chairperson.
Carmen Garcia-Irizarry, Town Council.

Chairperson Kohrs was present via Zoom; therefore Vice-Chairperson Hawes conducted the meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None present.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Motion to APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes from January 7, 2025, as written.

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

AYE 4 Schneider Kohrs Bingham Hawes

EXCUSED 2 Eastbourne Martic

ABSENT 1 Christiansen

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

Valentine's Day mugs - Vice Chairperson Hawes brought in sample mugs to show what she received for donations for the teacup project. Ms. Schneider spoke with McKenna's Flower Shop in Norwich, and they will be donating baby's breath and greenery. The Committee was appreciative, and Chairperson Kohrs will give recognition on Facebook to McKenna's Flower Shop. Vice Chairperson Hawes said there are 16 volunteers who signed up to assist with the assembly. Chairperson Kohrs asked how many mugs there are, it was answered 34. The Senior Center is reserved from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The event will start at noon.

Junior LBC Club - Chairperson Kohrs said the first Junior meeting was held on January 30. There were approximately ten attendees. The students were enthusiastic and had many good ideas. Chairperson Kohrs said they tried to focus the meeting on Earth Day. There will be two collection bins for recyclable donations placed at the Middle School, which was approved by Principal Earley. The Club decided to hold a cleanup event at the School on Earth Day, directly after school. Any garbage collected during the cleanup will be brought to the dumpster during the Earth Day event. Chairperson Kohrs is working with some of the teachers to arrange a Google classroom communication line with the Junior Club members.

Earth Day - Chairperson Kohrs said that she wants to get the word out on collecting recyclables. There should be emphasis on "clean" items, no food residue for example. April 4 is the first event night during the Parks and Recreation "Parents Night Out". Chairperson Kohrs would like to collect interesting items not just bottles and cardboard. Items such as broken chairs or tables for example. Ms. Eastbourne has been in touch with SCRRA to get pickers and vests to use during the cleanup event. She asked Committee members to reach out to vendors and local groups that could be incorporated into the event.

Councilor Carmen Garcia-Irizarry mentioned that the Town of Stonington has a program that collects plastic and plastic bags, once a certain weight is collected a bench is given to the Town. Chairperson Kohrs said she will research the program. Ms. Christiansen said as part of the Rotary Club she looked into the program and said that the number of plastic bags needed to be collected to receive a bench was overwhelming. Councilor Carmen Garcia-Irizarry said as a Town wide initiative it may be manageable. The Committee will explore the program.

The Mural project at Juliet Long School - the Junior LBC Club was enthusiastic about this idea.

Sponsors - On the to do list. The goal is to have a sponsor for each area by the start of spring.

Town sign near Mount Decatur - Chairman Kohrs would like before and after pictures of the sign taken when the sign is refreshed.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

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

None.

VI. NEW BUSINESS**1. Any Other New Business to Come before the Committee.**

Councilor Carmen Garcia-Irizarry made a presentation regarding the Town food scrap program. Each week at the transfer station residents bring their food scraps which are collected to be made into compost by a company in Southington, CT. The town pays approximately \$200.00 per month for the food waste to be collected. The same amount is collected from the Town regardless of the weight therefore it is more cost effective to collect as much as possible. Councilor Carmen Garcia-Irizarry explained that the State of Connecticut has closed some of their incinerators and the Town sends approximately 900,000 tons of trash per year to other states to be incinerated. The days and times the transfer station is open for people to bring their food scraps is not convenient for all residents. Councilor Carmen Garcia-Irizarry is working on other solutions for residents to drop their food scraps at any time. Chairperson Kohrs had an idea for the schools to collect food scraps since there is a lot of food waste in the cafeterias. Councilor Carmen Garcia-Irizarry suggested starting at the Middle School and if it's successful maybe the other schools would follow. There would be a \$215.00 charge per month for the foods scraps to be picked up from Ledyard Middle School. Councilor Carmen Garcia-Irizarry will send the Committee information on the food scrap program and a quote. Chairperson Kohrs asked if she would be willing to attend a Junior LBC meeting to present the program to the Club during the end of April or May, she said that she would. Ms. Bingham asked if Councilor Carmen Garcia-Irizarry would like to have a booth at the Earth Day event to hand out brochures and educate residents on the program, she said that she could. Chairperson Kohrs asked if there was another event they could sponsor similar to the Veterans Day sign event. Vice-Chairperson Hawes suggested daffodil signs. An idea was suggested to ask sponsors to purchase a sign and bulbs package. Timing of the signs would have to be figured out since the signs can't be left out too long or they will get weathered looking. What about having an official Ledyard daffodil? The Committee asked Naomi Rodriguez, Town Council Chairperson, how to make the daffodil the official Town flower. She said to make a motion, vote on it, then send it to the Town Council.

Ideas for Memorial Day? A clean up after the parade was suggested, maybe ask the Junior LBC Club to participate too. Chairperson Kohrs asked the Committee to start thinking of ideas.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to ADJOURN the Regular Meeting at 5:57 p.m.

A motion was made by Committee Member Bingham, seconded by Chairman Kohrs, that this be Approved and so declared. The motion carried by the following vote:

RESULT: APPROVED AND SO DECLARED

MOVER: Jennifer Bingham

SECONDER: Kathrine Kohrs

AYE 4 Schneider Kohrs Bingham Hawes

EXCUSED 2 Eastbourne Martic

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