

HALIFAX BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

9-9-19

PRESENT: Amy Troup, Nancy Botelho, Greg Cowan, Candace Kniffen, Tom Fitzgerald, Todd Koep (MassDEP)

ABSENT: Jeanne Kling

The meeting was called to order at 1:05

Meeting Minutes from June 10, 2019 were reviewed and approved.

- The Committee decided to postpone Re-Organization until the next meeting when everyone would be there.
- Signature Forms for the Town Accountant will also be completed at the next meeting.
- Tom Fitzgerald attended the meeting to inquire as to the maintenance financing status of the Fitzgerald Garden. He suggested that all the town's gardens (Library, Town Hall, Veteran's Memorial etc.) should be under the care of the Parks Department for maintenance and upkeep. After some discussion, it was decided to invite the Parks Department members, or a representative from their committee, to our next meeting to discuss this concern, including costs.
- Candy reported that the Adopt A Planter program is going well and that all of the planters were distributed. She is looking into the possibility of offering mums for the planters for the Fall at a discounted price.
- There was no update on the Adopt an Island Program other than to mention the nice job C-Mac Services did on a volunteer basis on the island at the intersection of routes 106 and 58. Candy has a sign for that island that will be put up once a post is added to it.
- Candy reported that the letter regarding adding nip bottles to the Bottle Bill was sent to our legislators on behalf of the committee. The Board of Selectmen also agreed to send a letter supporting the same.
- Candy reported that the Attorney General officially approved the Spring Town Meeting actions, and the Plastic Bag Article will be implemented in the Spring. Todd Koep, Mass DEP Municipal Assistance Coordinator, indicated that the article was clear and that **no** plastic bags are permissible for distribution at checkouts. There is no thickness, or percentage of plastic acceptable. The Committee is developing a flyer for establishments to help make the transition as clear and smooth as possible. It was M/S/P to set the implementation date for the "Re-useable Bag By-Law" as March 1, 2020.
- It was M/S/P to set The Fall 2019 Halifax Clean-Up Day for Saturday, November 16, 2019, 10am 'til Noon.

The following notification assignments were agreed upon:

- Highway and Maintenance Departments: **Candy**
 - Boy Scouts, Middle School and High School Recycling or Environmental Clubs: **Greg**
 - Girl Scouts, Daisies, etc.: **Amy(?)**
 - Key Club, Elementary School Recycling Club: **Jeanne**
 - Other???
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- Amy also agreed to request bags from Dennis Carmen.
 - Nancy Botelho suggested possibly selling and demonstrating Composting Bins during the clean-up. Todd said that the town already sells them at the recycling center, and that the cost is subsidized by a DEP Grant. Nancy will find out more about this.
 - We will ask Jeanne to update the flyer for the Clean-Up.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20.

Respectfully submitted

Candace Kniffen