

Arboretum Committee minutes, March 8, 2018

Present: Bill Brower, Andy Krofina, Jean Rocheleau, Philippa Paquette

Guests: Mitch Eaffy

1. Call to order at 7:00pm

2. Attendance: Absent excused: Judith Gries, Chad Hart, Edie Pierce Unexcused: Danielle Payne, Marilyn Pomeroy

3. Motion to approve minutes of January 11 (Rocheleau/Paquette) all in favor. Krofina abstained.

4. Report has not been provided

5. a) Matt has the plaque

b) no communication with Danielle (communication came after the meeting and box is being constructed and painted according to Bill's suggestions...green to match other paint and no white.

c) not in place yet

d) the hydrangeas are very unhappy where they are near the town hall and need to be dug up in the spring and moved to a sunnier site .

e) garden club tours: April 15, Chad, May 12, Chad, Bill, June 10: Jean, Danielle and Philippa

July 14: Bill, Andy

f) Mitch and Bill met with Nancy Adams to plan volunteer chores.

g) stone dust for paths will cost about \$640 for materials and \$800 for labor. The WA students and Pomfret students will be available on their service days to provide the labor if the drainage can be completed at the bottom of the Arboretum prior to their dates.

Bill will follow up with John Navarro and Matt Sheldon to see if either of them can complete this work.

h) Nancy is unable at this time to take the leadership on volunteer activities in the Arboretum but Bill and Mitch will meet with Margaret and develop a list and timetable. At this time, the list is:

Early April. Fertilize the shade garden, daffodil and hosta beds with 10-10-10

Tree peonies need to be mulched and one needs to be staked

Regrowth on the sides of the stone walls needs to be suppressed by plastic or spray.

MaryLou will repair fence and stain it.

Black plastic needs to be moved to new area for weed suppression.

New Business:

Future Expenses: \$1000 for Chad and Jonathon Roy for pruning and tree work

\$1000 for Mitch for lawn care and trimming

\$1000 for stone dust for paths and stone bases for seating.

\$120 for seeding of area under black plastic

Mitch will request the Board of Selectman to put the Arboretum on their agenda for their next meeting and he and Bill will attend. They will ask the Board to give a share of the excess funding at the end of the fiscal year or excess money assigned to town projects to the Arboretum. Mitch will ask Chandler Paquette for a recommendation for a quote for a professional to complete the important projects at the Arboretum if the town cannot complete them...like the drainage at the bottom of the Arboretum.

New Projects:

Compost bins would help to organize the brush and weeds that are often piled in several places. The town would continue to remove piles of brush that would be transferred from the Bin to the parking lot.

Jean presented the fund raising letter she wrote. The committee made some edits and suggestions. She has 5000 sheets of pink paper and Julie will print the insert in batches on the town hall printer. Jean would like to include it in the May 15 Shoppers Guide so must submit it by May 1. The committee was very appreciative of her work and donation of time and paper.

Meeting ended at 7:55

Respectfully submitted,

Philippa Paquette

Sent from my iPad