

Parks and Public Spaces Committee Meeting
July 17th, 6:00pm, Ola O'Dell's home

Present: Lisa Campbell, Laura Rubenis, Ola O'Dell
Not present: Rosalie Benson, Willow Griffith.

- 1.) Thank you notes - the committee feels that it is appropriate to send out thank you notes to the volunteers that are working on the town spaces.
- 2.) Inquiry notes - will develop notes to invite town people for membership. (committee discussed inviting Carla Hodgdon, and Rebecca Sanborn Stone)
- 3.) Bob Taylor has weeded under the trees by the parking lot in preparation for planting. both Ola and Lisa have spoken with him, and ask him to keep track of what he is spending for the committee's records. He feels strongly about taking on that expense himself, but will provide the committee with a summary of what he has spent.
- 4.) Lisa has spoken with both Heidi Nickolaidis, and Ellen Nobile, who have stated that they have resigned from the committee via a letter to the Town Manager. We have been unable to access any records regarding the past activities of the committee and will check with the Town Office and the Select Board to see if they have any documentation. (Lisa made a call to Chippers to find out about the status of the project at the Common. They said that the project didn't sound familiar and they would check their records and get back to us.)
- 5.) Laura is in charge of planting the River Street Triangle (at the base of the North Rd. The spot needs a lot of amending, including top soil and peat moss (most efficient to have a truck load delivered to the site) She will get a list to Lisa, who will call Del to make the arrangements. New plants will be needed to start the space, and then perennials will be transplanted from other sites in the fall.
- 6.) Questions for the SB
 - Repairs to the stonework by Richardson's? (the stone is sliding toward the sidewalk)
 - Bench at Fort Fortitude? Time line for replacement?
 - Does the SB have any updates on the work at the Common?
 - Time line for remaining work at Peavine Park? Including water fountain, porta-potty base and trellis, electrical panel, and remaining fence.
- 7.) The committee would like to propose a Saturday morning work event for the Common. Thinking about late August with a group of volunteers for weeding and thinning the plants on the site.
- 8.) Ms Barry's class has historically done a fall clean-up of the common in the month of October.
- 9.) Ola proposed the committee look into making small plaques for the various garden sites. they would be to the effect of "Site cared for by _____" (examples would be Bob Taylor, Ola O'Dell, Ms. Berry's Botany Class, etc...)
- 10.) Public relations
 - Lisa will call Amy/Jennie to ask them about writing an article for the Herald regarding the

work that has been done, and proposed projects. Would also include a public invitation to join the committee. Could also include pictures, and thanks to the local businesses for their work on their lovely window boxes.

Lisa will contact Abbey at the Town Office about the possibility of having a page linked to the Town Website for the P&PS committee (similar to the Bethel Watershed Group link).

11.) Discussed Abbey's suggestion of meeting at the Town Office. The committee felt that moving the meeting to the Cockadoodle Cafe would provide the public accessibility, but not quite as formal as a meeting at the Town Office. Lisa spoke with Nell, who approved the committee meeting at the restaurant on the third Tuesday of every month, at 6:30.

12.) Update on Boat Launch at Peavine Park - have not heard back from the River Conservancy. Laura will try to touch base with Steve. (she has since touched base with Steve who has plans for doing the work in mid to late August).

13.) While touching base with Nell Fisher, she stated that she has the money that the Cockadoodle and their partners have donated for use at Peavine Park. Lisa said that she would check with the Town and find out how to deposit that donation. (follow up with Bill Hall, who indicated it needed to be brought to the town office and left with Joanie. This is standard for all donations made to the Town of Bethel.)

14.) Flower baskets - the baskets are all set for this year. currently other committees are entertaining the idea of taking them over for next season.

15.) Next Meeting will be on August 21st, at 6:30pm at the Cockadoodle Cafe.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Campbell
Chairperson, Parks and Public Spaces