



## **COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2013**

### **TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM**

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The Community Enhancement Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at the Town Hall meeting room from 10:00 am to 11:45 am. The following individuals were in attendance: Sue Callaway, Chair; Donna Farrow; George Junkin; Diann Nazarian; John Speer; Bobbie Stephan; Kent Stephan; Carol Stevenson; and Don Chrobot, Maintenance Supervisor. There were no public comments.

#### **CEC Member Comments**

Kent Stephan expressed interest in creating T-shirts duplicating the one hanging in the Town Council room that was donated to the Historical Society. Kent is interested in pursuing this idea as well as other marketable SB materials, in the spring upon his return from wintering in Florida. Carol Stevenson applauded the outstanding new Christmas Lights along the Route 1 highway and thanked Don for getting the new lights. The group then discussed the future purchase of more upgraded holiday decorations for the two Welcome areas located in the north and south ends of South Bethany.

**Addendum:** An additional thank you is extended to Kent and Bobbe Stephan who helped decorate the outside and inside of Town Hall on Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. They joined Sue Callaway, her two granddaughters Cammie and Makayla, Dee Burbage and Don Chrobot in this decorative projection! Several SB homeowners have commented on how cheery and festive the Town Hall looks! Thank you all for volunteering your time!

## **Ocean Drive Art Initiative – Painted Designs on Ocean Drive Planters**

Sue presented an update on the proposed Art Initiative. Sue met with local professional artist Tara Grim in November to review the planters along Ocean Drive and the proposed idea. Tara is excited about the plan and has agreed to serve as point person for the artists along with Sue Callaway and Don Chrobot organizing the logistics and material details. Since the meeting, the size of the art boards has been confirmed and boards have been purchased (exterior grade as recommended by 84 Lumber), prepared by the Maintenance Department (sanded and smoothed and covered with Kilz) and approved by Tara (December 12). Design sketches were submitted by Celeste Speer and Carolyn Marcello and approved at the December 11 CEC meeting. The artists are working together on confirming the appropriate paints. The plan is to have the three art boards in place by Memorial Day. In addition, Sue distributed an informational flyer she prepared that describes the Art Initiative and its details and will be used to introduce the Initiative to SB homeowners in the spring. One of the potential future plans is to introduce the Initiative to other gallery artists that Tara is associated with. Kent Stephan presented the idea of a possible stipend for other artists outside SB, however after discussion CEC members were not supportive of the stipend proposal.

**Addendum:** Tara Grim approved the art boards on December 12. Don Chrobot delivered a prepared board to the three artists following her approval.

## **Update on Phase 2 Street Sign Project – 33 New Street Signs along Route 1 East and West Sides**

All 33 signs for Phase 2 have been installed along the Route 1 East and West sides. Sue thanked Don for getting this major task completed in such a timely fashion. Sue also noted that several comments have been received about how nice they look and how much easier it is to read the street names. Sue presented the idea of having the Historical Society organize the sale of the old signs as a fundraising event. With CEC approval Sue has confirmed the Historical Society's interest with Maria Johansson who will organize the sale and distribution of the old signs. A few requests to purchase the old signs have already been made by SB property owners.

**Addendum:** The Town Council approved the sale distribution of the old signs by the Historical Society at the December 13 Town Council meeting.

## **Ocean Drive Alternative Lighting Trial Test**

In response to the Town Council recommendation, on November 26, 97 letters and photographs were sent to Ocean Drive homeowners regarding the solar light test experiment along Ocean Drive seeking their input. Sue announced the results of the letter survey as tabulated by Dee Burbage. 47 homeowners checked the box "Extend the lights all along Ocean Drive," and 6 homeowners checked the box, "Do not extend the lights and remove the test lights." Upon request, Sue read the comments from the 6 who opposed extending the lights. The next steps are to continue the test period and to request funds for the solar lights in the FY 15 budget.

**Addendum:** To date (12-17-13) a total of 58 responses were received: 52 homeowners checked the "yes" box and 6 homeowners checked the "no" box.

## **Discussion of DRAFT CEC Budget Items**

Sue announced that she and Don met in late November to review the status of the FY 14 budget and the DRAFT FY 15 CEC budget they had prepared. Sue explained the process that she and Don follow: the first task is to review the items expensed in the FY 14 budget and the status of funds spent and those not yet expended. After evaluating those costs, they then begin to look at any proposed projects and ideas and their associated costs followed by the annual landscaping expenses generally incurred by the town. The group reviewed the new and annual items in the proposed FY 15 CEC budget and some of the CEC proposed ideas that would be requested in the Public Works FY 15 budget such as juniper removal and the tree maintenance of the Richard Hall Memorial Park. A point that arose through the discussion of the FY 14 was the development of the proposed flyer regarding dog waste removal. Sue noted that there were recent comments from homeowners, particularly on Ocean Drive, regarding the extent of dog waste found. Sue stated that CEC would be working on this in January and February for an early spring distribution to SB homeowners.

## **Message Boards in Town**

Don noted that the two new message boards for Ocean Drive have been ordered. When asked by Don if they should be placed at new locations on Ocean Drive, the group agreed to keep the one at North 6<sup>th</sup> Street but to move the other one to the handicapped access walkway located on S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

**Addendum:** At the December 13<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting, Councilman Jim Gross stated that there is not enough room by the handicapped walkway to install a message board. George and Sue agreed to assess the room available at that proposed site.

### **Update on Adopt Program**

Sue noted that an application had been received from Ann and Don Boteler requesting adoption of the Sussex Place road end. The application and design plan were approved by the Adopt sub-committee members, Bobbie Stephan, Sharon Nonn, Carol Stevenson and Sue Callaway. The junipers will be removed in early 2014 with planting scheduled for early spring. Sue will notify the Botelers that the application and plan have been approved.

### **Looking Ahead:**

Sue announced that SB homeowner (Anchorage) and new full-time resident Pat Weisgerber has agreed to join the CEC. We welcome Pat and her new ideas! Sue stated that she has set a goal of adding 3 new members to the CEC in 2014 and asked members to begin recruitment!

### **Adjournment**

The group adjourned at 11:45 am. The group will next meet on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at 10:00 am. The group adjourned for the annual CEC Christmas luncheon where they were joined by South Bethany staff.

**Addendum:** Thanks are extended to all CEC members who contributed and attended the CEC Christmas luncheon! I was so pleased with the employee attendance and the overall "feeling" of goodwill and camaraderie! A special thanks to Carol Stevenson for helping Sue Callaway set up for the luncheon and to Kent Stephan for bringing his annual crock pot of delicious chili! Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! See you in 2014!!