



COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMMARY

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2014 – 10:00 AM – 11:45 AM

TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

The Community Enhancement Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at the Town Hall Meeting Room. The meeting was attended by Sue Callaway, Chair; Donna Farrow; Kathy Jankowski (representing Barbara Sears); Diann Nazarian; Kent Stephan; Bobbe Stephan; Carol Stevenson (via remote access); Pat Weisgerber; and Don Chrobot, Maintenance Department. Prior to the beginning of the meeting, a motion was carried to approve Carol Stevenson's participation via remote access.

Public Comments and CEC Member Comments

There was no public in attendance. Sue Callaway noted that the topic of the Welcome Signs was inadvertently left off the agenda. Discussion followed on the repair and repainting of the signs which will occur over the winter months. The sign will be removed, power washed, repaired and repainted in January. Diann Nazarian mentioned that she heard that Middlesex Beach was going to install sidewalks along Evergreen Road. She agreed to follow-up with this decision.

ADDENDUM

Diann Nazarian learned that the Evergreen sidewalk installation was only a rumor. They will do some clearing and cutting back of bushes and trees but NO sidewalks will be installed along the Middlesex side of Evergreen.

Update on the Little Free Library

Sue stated that Lori Cicero reported that the SBLFL has been used quite regularly. Lori will be leaving SB for the winter months and Pat Weisgerber will take on oversight of the LFL. Kathy Jankowski suggested that Pat may want to contact Linda Lewis who

would be interested in helping with the library's oversight. Pat agreed to follow-up with Linda. Sue thanked Pat, Frank and Lori again for their volunteerism. Also, the Coastal Point article covering the LFL's dedication is posted on the CEC website.

ADDENDUM

Pat Weisgerber contacted Linda Lewis and she has agreed to assist with oversight of the LFL.

Update on Ocean Drive Art Boards

- Cindy Scruggs Submission

Sue showed the group a photograph of the almost completed artwork done by South Bethany homeowner Cindy Scruggs.

- Photography submissions

The group reaffirmed that the Ocean Drive Initiative could include photography submissions. South Bethany homeowners Ann Boteler and Eric Murray have been contacted about participating. Sue noted that per Damon, photography submissions do not have to be scanned and will thus eliminate the \$100 scan fee.

- Review of Professional Artist and Photography flyers

Sue mentioned that when visiting the Gallery 26 regarding proofs for Carolyn Marcello's work that Gallery artist Jeanne Mueller suggested she would present the idea at their artists' meetings. Sue presented a draft flyer to CEC for professional artists to be distributed at that meeting which the group reviewed, commented on and suggested changes that should be made. Discussion regarding professional artists' payment for scan and imaging fees was reviewed as well. The group felt that professional artists should contribute some if not all of the costs – however, they agreed to consult with Tara Funk Grim about the best approach to this issue. Sue will follow-up with Tara and make the proposed changes to the flyer. The Professional photography submissions should be supported in the same way however, SB local artists would be handled via a contribution or supported by CEC depending on available funds. The group also agreed that the artwork should be installed on Ocean Drive April 1 and removed December 1.

ADDENDUM

Sue spoke with Tara Grim on Monday, September 29th regarding the payment issues and Tara made the following comments:

- Artists pay for the scan and CEC pay for the imaging unless artists agree to fund all (artist would then be on a "CEC funds available list")
- Consider CEC hosting an Exhibit of the artists' Ocean Drive artwork at Town Hall during the summer months as additional incentive for artists' participation – perhaps opening the Exhibit during the SBPOA Bullroast in June.
- Forwarded draft flyer to Tara for final review
- Comments were received from Tara and Damon

- Sue revised Gallery Flyer

- Outreach for additional artists

Additional Email News Updates will also be conducted in the coming months recapping the first months and upcoming artists and encouraging SB local artists' participation.

- Preliminary discussion of 2015 budget for art program

Once the group agrees on the artists' contribution plan, the group can then begin to discuss overall FY 2016 Budget for the initiative. After preliminary discussion, the group agreed that it is fair to attribute one hour of Public Works time per each piece of artwork for associated tasks including hanging art; taking down art; cleaning and storing art. This discussion led to comments regarding assessing the value of community enhancement initiatives and its overall contribution to the town, individual property value and rental income. Kent Stephan pointed out that CEC's current budget averages out to less than \$16 per property.

Adopt-A-Canal/Road End Contest

- Review of Adopt Contest and Party

Sue thanked Carol, Pat and Bobbe for their help with the Adopt Contest. 165 votes were received and counted. First, second and third place contest winners gathered to receive their Lord's Landscaping certificates on September 9th and the announcement was featured in the Coastal Point on September 19th. The September 13th "Adopt Thank You" party was well-attended and very successful. Sue thanked Carol and Todd Stevenson for hosting the party at their home.

- Review of prioritized canal/road ends for future adoptions

Sue presented an updated list of prioritized canal/road ends. The previous assessment was completed in 2012 and it was noted that 6 ends assigned as "priority A" had been adopted since the 2012 list. CEC members agreed to reach out to property owners to potentially adopt the following canal/road ends labeled "priority A."

- ✓ W. 10th Road End – Diann Nazarian
- ✓ Brandywine Road End – Sue Callaway
- ✓ Henlopen Road End – Carol Stevenson
- ✓ New Castle Road End – Sue Callaway
- ✓ Layton Road End – Kent Stephan
- ✓ Route 1 between Layton and Godwin – Diann Nazarian

- Wandering Weeders

Sue requested that the Wandering Weeder assignments become more specific so that there is more attention to the maintenance of previously adopted canal/road ends. Carol Stevenson agreed to follow-up.

- 2015 Earth Day Canal/Road End Suggestions

The group agreed that the 2015 Earth Day adoption should be the proposed re-adoption and design of the Anchorage Forebay area. Sue added that she had spoken with CIB's Chris Basin regarding an official rain garden information sign that is part of the design. He promised to follow-up regarding previously offered funds for such a sign.

ADDENDUM

Kent and Bobbe Stephan have agreed to continue to maintain this area as apart of the Adopt Program. Kent will serve as the manual laborer while Bobbe serves as advisor!

Delaware Forest Service Tree Management Grant Submission

Sue stated that she had prepared a grant for DE Forest Service Tree Management funds. The grant, requesting \$5,000 was submitted on September 13th. If SB receives the grant funds, they will be used to offset the costs budgeted to manage Richard Hall Memorial Park.

ADDENDUM

On October 1, 2014 the Town of South Bethany received notification that we were awarded the DFS Tree Management Grant in the amount of \$5,000!

Update on Route 1 Median, East and West Side Bio-Retention Beds and York Beach Mall, and proposed landscaped area by Anchorage Forebay

Don Chrobot presented an update on the landscaping of the areas listed. Winter plans on place. They have removed the lantana and planted the ornamental cabbages in the Ocean Drive receptacles and are in the midst of spraying and removal of the phragmites. They will begin cutting back the plants in the walkway rain gardens and on the east side of Route 1 behind the new bio-retention areas. Sue mentioned that she was not happy with the overall appearance of the York Beach Mall area as it needed more weeding and landscaping attention. Her hope is that becomes more of a "wow" area as it is the first and last substantially landscaped area seen coming in out of town and by many pedestrians.

Update on Fall installation of Street Signs

Don Chrobot stated that Phase 3 (formerly Phase 4) sign project that includes the installation of 37 street signs on the west side of Route 1 will begin in late fall/early winter. Donna Farrow asked about the condition of the signs along Route 1 and Don noted that they are the responsibility of DelDot. He agreed to follow-up with them.

Addendum

Don called DelDot about the Rt. 1 signs and DelDot said they are replacing all the Rt. 1 signs from Fenwick to Dewey before summer 2015.

New Year's Day Plunge and SB TEAM!

Sue announced that with the abandonment of the Community and Public Relations Committee that the Plunge event would be taking place under the CEC. An Email News Update about the Plunge will be sent out the end of September.

CEC MEMBERSHIP – Outreach for new members

Sue asked CEC members to reach out to friends and neighbors within the SB community who may be interested in becoming involved with the CEC. Kathy Jankowski stated that she would like to be a CEC member and will attend the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, October 23rd at 10:00 AM**. The meeting will be held at the Town Hall meeting room.