

Bantam Civic Association

P.O. Box 22 • Bantam, CT 06750 • Incorporated 1947

Bantam Civic Association Minutes

Wednesday April 3 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Bantam Civic Association was called to order at 5:02 p.m. at The Bantam Borough Hall by President Paul Griffen.

Members Present: Dick Sheldon, Kim Griffen, Lauren Sage, Katie Lapointe, Dan “Boomer” Parsons, Jeanie Sanford, Jeff Porter, JJ Annable, Kyle Towne, Terry Syzmanski, Wendy Westcott, Val Caron, Leslie Caron, John Caron
Public: Peter Dauten, Patty Dauten

Previous Minutes: March minutes were presented and corrected. A Motion to approve the amended minutes was made by Dick and 2nd made by Jeff. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Jeanie: Moved to Public Input: recognized Thank You Letter and \$100. donation made by Dave and Janet Luzi following John McKenna's article in The Waterbury Republican. Also, donations of \$100. from Anne Coombs and \$50. from Cheryl Stoughton. Discussion of funds should read: options for balance of \$10k from DeGrasse Fund. Paul: Show less in the account. Members disagree. Dick makes motion to open Money Market account. Discussion. Wendy makes the same motion to open a Money Market Account; Jeff seconds the motion. Val: Members must approve any expenditure over \$500. Citing cost of Mower service. Discussion. Next year quotes on mower service up front.

Parking Lot: Kyle volunteers to pull rocks, grade, and top dress, using reclaimed material from the town. Discussion: Muddy condition playground end, fixing w proper drainage is costly. Members acknowledge Kyle has done over and above share of work. Paul wants topsoil. Kyle does not recommend soil, muddy. Just dress for now. Chain across end for now.

Baseball Field: Paul corrects Republican article- Litchfield Little League showed interest in using field, no commitment. Paul: the backstop repair cost question brought up earlier by Terry, should read: other quote was significantly higher than one we used . How to improve field. Discussion clay vs grass. Clay requires regular maintenance. Kyle, make what is there look better because it is a big deal to replace with clay. Jeff: Baseline and pitching mounds fixed. Discussion on resurrecting fields and wall removal.

Status of Grant Applications:

Lauren and Kim continue to work on the applications. Presentation to the Litchfield Morris Rotary Club. Union Savings connection to Rotary, and Union donation possible. Grant in May would add to total and cover adult playground equipment. Kim: On Sportsmen's list for donation of bases for next year. Seherr Thoss requires photos, proof grant money used accordingly. Jeanie: \$2000. Balance: to JJ for picnic tables & \$1000 to Kyle. Dick makes motion that the \$1000. Balance left over from Seherer Thoss grant give to Kyle for materials, parking lot repairs associated w fence. Katie seconds. No vote. Discussion. Paul: wait until he

looks at it first. Members: This all relates to fencing and parking lot repair, work is already in progress, no need to wait. Wendy: Motion restated. All vote in favor. Motion carries.

ByLaws

Lauren: All of Bantam should be included not just Borough. All agree. Paul: Acknowledges work by committee but says bylaws now too complex. Lists his opinions, issues with new bylaws: ie disagrees w member classifications, long-term members can't step away & come back with all rights, notification method can't be single method, #9- seal should be eliminated. No need to formalize every role. Scheduling- Paul: no complaints. Katie- has had people approach her, confusion about who to contact. Paul: thinks contact is clear on the field, website, etc. He should continue.

Jeff, committee member overview: The committee worked off two sets of bylaws, combined for best efforts to create bylaws, inactive member term to "associate" member. Scheduling- not overcomplicated, & should be defined for future. Katie: committee removed a lot of complicated, extraneous wording. All open for discussion. Discussions on notification. Leslie: scheduling should be one person, define positions.

Public Input/ Correspondence: Donations: \$100. Donation made by Dave and Janet Luzi following John McKenna's article in The Waterbury Republican. Also, donations of \$100. from Anne Coombs and \$50. from Cheryl Stoughton.

Any Other Business, Discuss Logos

Wendy proposes working w Harmony at \$50. Per hour to refine our choice of logos. Good ideas everyone likes, narrow down. We can choose/vote on one, and she can help refine it, make vector file print ready for letterhead and signage. Discussion: Several members like both BCA and Alain White Field on logo. Wendy willing to donate \$50 for Harmony's time. Dick: Motion to hire Harmony for \$100. Max. Kim seconds, motion passes.

Work Party: Paul, how many have seen the fence? Need to clean up along the road, so we need a work party. Who can come this Saturday? Terry noted a pile left since last year's "cleanup." Discussion: repairing the damaged, cracked, and damaged playscape. Wall removal discussion. Kim makes a request for a leaf blower. Val: mower research pricing on going.

Paul: position of difference between secretary and clerk- commissions have secretary and clerk. Clerk is usually hired person. Volunteer in this case.

Remove: question from Val: Kim was made secretary, Wendy does minutes and minutes are sent to Paul for corrections. Not standard procedure. Leslie: Corrections should be made at meeting. Leslie- never received any emails from Paul. Never been added to member list. Wendy made list, was told cannot make member list and disperse. Kyle: There is an abundance of members now, but the future may not have as many members. Less positions- bylaws should reflect clerk and secretary as one position.

JJ: Westshore Seafood approached him to use Alain White parking lot for after hour events. Discussion on how to handle if allowed. Proof of insurance which she has. Tabled for now.

Prospective New Members: Peter and Patricia Dauten would like to be voted in. Peter was member for 15 years. Jeff: Make motion to add new members to agenda, Val seconds, all in favor. Motion carried. Dick makes motion to add Peter and Patty as new members. All in favor. Motion carries. New Member Total: 21

Storage Shed: Val: new shed- status and what are we going to do with it. What is it for? Dick has suggestions.

Adjournment Leslie: motion to adjourn at 6:25. Dick Seconds.

Attest:

Wendy Westcott
April 13, 2024
