

Bantam Civic Association

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

Bantam Civic Association Minutes

Wednesday May 1, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Bantam Civic Association was called to order at 5:00 p.m. at The Bantam Borough Hall by President Paul Griffen.

Members Present: Dick Sheldon, Jeanie Sanford, Lauren Sage, Jane Golding, Dan “Boomer” Parsons, Leslie Caron, John Caron, Val Caron, Jeff Porter, Wendy Westcott, JJ Annable, Kim Griffen, Peter Dauten, Patty Dauten

Previous Minutes: April minutes were presented. Corrections, clarifications made, approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jeanie: approx. \$9000. balance. bank now offering 5% on short term/5month cd, perhaps put some of the DeGrasse money there. Dick: DeGrasse \$36,000. Perhaps put in CD/money market. Discussion of retaining some funds in one place with access if needed. Copy of report is passed. Dick motions to accept Treasurer’s Report as presented, Lauren seconds. Majority in favor, motion carries.

To-do List:

Paul passes around a tasks-to-be-done signup sheet, also discuss list of larger projects and items needed at field. Jeff: suggest not leaving extension ladder out where kids have access. Dick: Requests a battery powered weedwacker to replace gas powered. Kim adds weedwacker to list. Paul: Storing items and charging must be done in cinder block building, no electricity in shed. Spread topsoil to fill front of playground area, fill holes from cement blocks, seed, straw it. Good to have tractor for this purpose, asks Pete- use his tractor w construction tires. Cookout: We owe Terri and Kyle’s crew for thousands of dollars worth of work, include Rowan’s crew, volunteers set date by next meeting.

Discuss baseball fields, poss way to rehab:

Val: rototill in past. Not a big project. Pete: Plumb Hill Fields start up season, they rototill. Dick: Little League interest to use field, approach them to help fix field. Paul: if rent field, don’t ask for help to rent it. Will speak to Little League. Discussion of ways to make field better if someone wants to rototill? Send out message, make sure doesn’t conflict w activity at field.

Status of Grants: Lauren: Application with NW Bank for \$4500. \$2000. put aside from last grant (proposal for all playground equipment), will be announced end of May. NW Foundation Torrington: financial statement, submitted for \$6500. For June. Union Bank reviewing for \$2500 donation. Paul: consider additional expenses for installation of playground equipment: cement, if Grant doesn’t cover all expenses, can these expenses be approved in advance? Allowed to vote by email to avoid timeframe. Dick: Make vote here to

designate up to \$2000 to cover any balance that grants don't cover for playground equipment project? Jani: does Grant money have to be allocated? No, this bank grant money goes directly in checking account. Jani seconds Dick's motion, Majority in favor, Motion approved. Kim: Webster Bank, no report. Seherr Thoss another \$5000. To finish ballfield, bleachers- getting costs for bleachers. Photos of completed fencing, picnic tables to send to thank Seherr Thoss for the \$16k donation. Fran Klemm made thank you notecards of field, members can sign. Paint for picnic tables: JJ wood to dry before painting. Paul: Remove staples from old tables. Wendy: Use spray gun for tables, JJ: agrees. Table painting for now.

ByLaws_Paul: Discussion amending bylaws. Jeff: summary: emailed bylaws, compiling feedback, subcommittee meeting again, look at new feedback and will bring another draft back. Dick: may need to address life membership. Kim: input will be considered at next subcommittee meeting. Jeanie: members present for 3 meeting months, 100% of time, you are a member, not penalize anyone for less than year. Jeff: reminder: new bylaws not in effect. Old bylaws do not say anything. Val: less than two years this association re-organized, when officers and people who voted officers in, no one had a year, wrong to say now members cannot be member for a year. Leslie: when these officers were voted in, nobody was eligible to vote, no one had 3 months. No time frame according to old bylaws. Jeff: Over complicated, no new bylaws. Old bylaws don't discern one way or another. Everyone here is a member. **All members treated equally until we have new bylaws. Makes motion to move on until we get new bylaws.** Val seconds Jeff's motion, all vote in favor, motion passes.

Public input and correspondence:

Dick: must put shed at north of existing shed. Discussion: excavate, lay stone base. Tractor work. Pete: could dig it out w backhoe, one day project. Dump load stone. Dig down 6-8" first. Pete and Dick meet to set location, will email out date when they have one. Kyle: ask but many members do not want to keep going to Kyle for projects.

Wall removal: Paul: machine needed for wall and dumpster, must be cut in pieces.

Paul: paint color for picnic tables, most members say red, Paul: Red color was voted on and approved. JJ: Base under pavilion: Muddy, needs improvement. Discussion: on how to get pavilion base done, temporary fix.

Jeff: makes sense to get prices for both stone for shed and stone for pavilion. Paul: Should get the base done for season, parties, market. Should take care of "customers". Woodbury Rod and Gun Club already rented in September. Rented two dates. Need pavilion to be decent.

Logo: final logo idea passed based on member preferences of original sketches. Make decision: Dick motions to accept final logo as presented, Jeff seconds, all vote in favor. Motion passes.

Adjournment

6:08 Dick motions to adjournment, Jani seconds.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Westcott

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05/19/2024

