

Bantam Civic Association

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

Bantam Civic Association Regular and Annual Meeting Minutes

Wednesday September 4 2024

The regular 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: Jane Golding, Dick Sheldon, Katie Lapointe, Dan “Boomer” Parsons, Terry Szymanski, Kyle Towne, Leslie Caron, John Caron, Val Caron, Jeff Porter, Pete Dauten, Wendy Westcott, Jeannie Sanford, JJ Annable, Kim Griffen.
Public: Mike Fabri

Previous Minutes: August minutes were presented. Jeannie corrected spelling of Grinvalsky. Jani makes motion to approve as amended, Dick seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Monthly Treasurer’s Report presented, and copies dispersed. Annual Financial Statement 8/2023-8/2024 also presented and passed with ending balance of \$28,102.28 as of August 31, 2024. Clarification on balance: Expenses- two CD’s of \$10,000 deducted from account and \$14,000. Mower purchase not reflected yet. Jani makes motion to approve treasurer’s report, Kim seconds. Motion carried.

Discuss second mower

Paul: West Street was told belt breaking on new mower was “impactive”, while mowing in grass. West Street picked up mower to diagnose it and did not charge. Mower is fixed. Requests warranty information. Terry: Belts not included in warranty.

Annual Meeting and By-Laws: Leslie brings up the issue of the two Agendas that Paul set for this Annual Meeting, stating according to the current By-laws, there should be one meeting in September and that is the Annual Meeting with the voting of the officers following the treasurer’s report and minutes. All other regular business to follow the vote. According to the present By-laws, there shouldn't be a regular monthly meeting unless it's a special meeting, and a special meeting was not discussed or approved. According to annual meeting board procedure, other organizations, go through the minutes, treasurer’s report, then officer vote and follow with any other business. Noted: there was no previous election.

Paul: states he set agendas as he thought it should be done, with two meetings, finish regular monthly meeting, uninterrupted then hold Annual meeting. Will not change agenda. Jeff: How picky should we be- as current By-laws state the Annual meeting is to be held first Sunday after Labor Day at a picnic. Also states the By-laws state the election can be held any other day within a month, as president and majority may appoint. Discussion: Holding vote first vs after meeting. Dick makes motion to hold regular meeting, adjourn and go to Annual meeting. Katie seconds. Vote is 6 yes for and 5 vote no against holding regular meeting first, Paul says majority rules.

Jeff- final amended By-Laws sent out. No feedback with Mission Statement tbd. Discussion: if we vote the new By-Laws in now, then November becomes the Annual meeting date. With every member present for this Annual meeting, elections should be done today. Pete: Agree with By-Laws, do not agree with putting off election. Leslie: By-Laws should be made effective next year. Kyle: No problem with By-Laws, it is a matter of effective date.

Kim makes motion to accept the By-Laws as written today. Dick seconds.

Overall uncertainty as to the actual topic of vote. The topic is By-Laws approved for today as written with the effective date today? Vote for approving By-Laws, 6 vote yes for approving as written today, 5 no. Paul states majority rules, motion passes. Unclear based on member discussion.

Pete: Has Annual meeting been cancelled? Democratic process?

Paul: New By-Laws in effect when voted on, if majority still wants to hold Annual Meeting today, up to majority. Legal way would be to follow By-Laws and hold Annual Meeting in November, but suggests take a vote.

Boomer: Makes a motion to hold Annual Meeting tonight as Agenda states, Pete seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report item: Jeannie: Lauren Sage said Northwest Community Foundation giving us \$5200 donation. Waterbury Republican article stated they gave us BCA \$3210, yet she has not seen any donation. Paul: Error in the article, goal was \$5200. Donations did not meet the goal.

Public Input and Correspondence: Mike Fabs: offers to repair pavilion at no charge.

Straighten building out first, replumb post by finding lowest point, work out one pole at a time on either side. Could be done during season, during market. Will dig all poles by hand, assess damaged ones, length, condition. Power company drilled the original holes. Fix inside after with gravel, according to BCA recommendation. Right side too tall, captures all water. Recommends gutters, level what is there. Concrete or gravel before winter. Needs permission to check it out, will work in late afternoons, starting Thursday 9/12 4pm. Members agree and thank Mike.

Fields: Paul: Jeoff Langill of Litchfield Little League contacted BCA, requests players start practicing Monday, Thursdays for three weeks beginning now until end October. Rather than paying rent, work out something, they purchase and donate load of clay \$1600. For first two years. Recognizing Pete did great job on field, but baselines unsafe, should be wider and made level with grass. Boomer: questions: If LLL donates the clay, need to know how often they want to use field. Do they install the clay too? Pete: recommends drag mat w tines to maintain c \$300. Paul: will pose questions to them, get more information.

Bleachers: Kim: have to spend grant money of \$5000. in September. 4 Tier bleacher is 17' high off ground, best for adults. 5 Tier law requires cage. Florida company best quotes \$3400. Use balance for surface prep. Length and width= 21'ft or 15'. Boomer: does grant money require more quotes? Discussion: wheelkits vs permanent. Need base material for permanent. Paul: put rods in ground to hold. Actual costs and size not established. Kim: company recommends 17' long, waiting for quote to clarify all information and will send out before it is ordered. Pete: 15' is going to be under budget. Jeff: Quote is for 15'. Dick makes motion to purchase the 4 Tier for best price, best size with shipping which stays under the quote/grant money. Jeff seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion to adjourn at 5:55 : Kim makes motion to adjourn. John seconds. All in favor, motion carried.

Annual Meeting called to order 5:55:

Discuss method of voting: Dick makes motion to vote by paper ballot. Boomer seconds. Discuss voting from the floor vs paper. Katie: paper voting best due to hostility at times. All in favor, motion carried.

Take nominations from floor:

Paul asks for nominations for President: Kim nominates Paul. Pete nominates Val. Jani nominates Jeff. Paper ballots are counted by Treasurer Jeannie and Wendy. 11 for Jeff, 2 for Paul, 3 for Val, 16 total ballots, all members accounted for. Congratulations to Jeff.

Nominations for Vice President: Paul nominates JJ. Pete nominates Val Caron. Paper ballots counted by Jeannie and Wendy. Tie: 8 ballots for each nomination. Co-Vice President suggested and agreed to by both nominees JJ and Val.

Treasurer: No need for ballot. All for Jeannie.

Nominations for Secretary: Paul nominates Kim. Leslie nominates Wendy. Wendy abstains from voting. 4 votes for Kim. 11 votes for Wendy.

Motion to adjourn: 6:09 pm Katie: recognizes the good work done over the year to resounding applause.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Westcott
09/04/2024
