

Harrison Beautification Minutes **April 7, 2005**

In Attendance: Helen Pesce, Denise DiBiasi, Lisa Sciliano, Virginia Leone, Sharon Ferraro, Rose Marino, Catherine McShane, Naomi Krigsman, Chris Baldoni, Florinda Broderick, Andrea Stone, Ada Angarano, Barbara Malfitano, Maria Gisondi, Camille Gladstone, Joan Walsh.

Mayor Malfitano stopped by for a quick visit. He suggested when we are clear on choice of Gateway & Historical signs and costs it should be presented at a town board meeting; also, at that time he could introduce the HBC to the public.

Gateway signs: The signs to be ordered are to be maroon and white and placed in the following locations:

1. Purchase at Anderson Hill Road by hot dog truck.
2. Corner at Police Station
3. Food Emporium
4. West Harrison at Underhill Avenue & Columbus Ave.
5. Union Avenue coming from Mamaroneck Avenue
6. Entering Silver Lake on Lake Street from White Plains
7. Top of Purchase Street by Airport * to be discussed

There was much discussion about obtaining pricing from more than 1 vendor and who would be responsible for payment of signs. Mayor Malfitano

On April 29, 2005 at 10 AM there will be an Arbor Day Committee Celebration located at the entrance to West Harrison from White Plains, to be dedicated to John Passidomo.

Historical Signs are also in need of replacement. Suggestion is to engrave pictures of the building on the sign if possible. For example the Sterling Building would be an ivory sign with a black border and a picture of the building etched on it. The pole would be black with a modified pineapple top. This needs to be worked on with the historical society along with determining how it would be paid for.

Website: Helen Pesce has been busy setting up the website. Committee members should be listed and the minutes available to the public. HBC email address currently forwarded to Helen Pesce and Denise DiBiasi. Can link directly from the town site. Suggestions for the site are to put an invitation for people to join meetings along with dates of next meeting and before/after pictures of projects should also be shown.

Holiday Decorations: Proposal presented by Barbara Malfitano, Camille Gladstone and Maria Gisondi. It has been agreed that the best decoration to purchase would be an eclectic mix of snowflakes. The proposal presented to the Committee and to Mayor Malfitano was to replace all the decorations in their current locations and to possibly add in future years. The cost of replacement in these locations would be approximately \$46,000. Due to the cost this would have to go out to bid and we would need to be certain of equal quality. Discussion of silhouettes brought up the potential for vandalism

and tree wraps came with the concern for electricity. Currently there are sales on these items and we would need to move quickly to obtain the best pricing possible.

It was brought up that the town lighting is poor on Halstead Avenue. If there were higher wattage bulbs would vandalism decrease? Florinda Broderick will look into this, although it is agreed this is not a beautification project.

Trash cans in front of town hall have been ordered and should arrive in May.

Spring Planting: The following is the list of sites that we will be planting this year, it is requested that the town turn the dirt, compost and prepare for planting.

1. W. Harrison perennial garden on Lake St. opposite Aquarius Restaurant.
2. Taylor Square Island (all 3 spots)
3. Leo Mintzer Center
4. Area around the Gazebo in W. Harrison
5. Petti John Park
6. Garden area at Halstead Parking by dance studio
7. Add soil & till planter boxes in front of tennis courts at Salazzo Center
8. Clean up & restore garden site on Halstead Avenue next to Pizza Restaurant (overgrown Shasta daisies need to be trimmed & garden boundaries need to be re-established)
9. Ma Riis Park is questionable.

There are 30 planters in question in front of merchants downtown: who is responsible for planting??

We will need to recruit volunteers for planting: it is agreed high school students needing community hours work best. **Is it possible for members to reach out to landscapers that they know to donate whatever time they can?** Town also plants at various sites and it has been requested that the planting plan be supplied to us. We should have a planting Plano gram.

Committee chairs for planting and dates are as follows:

Chris Baldoni- May 14, 2005 will be handling the planting in downtown Harrison.

Denise DiBiasi- May 21, 2005 will be handling the planting in West Harrison.

Volunteers should contact the above- we really do need everyone's support. Why not bring a friend?

Can we begin an annual Cherry Blossom festival that could be done in conjunction with Arbor Day next year? Will need to watch for exact time when flowers bloom.

It is agreed that we need to develop a strategic, yearly calendar with a definitive, outlined schedule so we stay on track.