

Harrison Beautification Minutes

May 12, 2005

In Attendance: Helen Pesce, Denise DiBiasi, Maria Gisondi, Camille Gladstone, Lisa Sciliano, Barbara Malfitano, Katherine McShane, Virginia Leone, Jean Kelly, Rose Marino, Ada Angarano, Comm. Bob Wasp and Joan Walsh.

Minutes from April 7, 2005 read and approved by all.

Passidomo Orchard with monument was donated by the Arbor Day Committee. This sight is a memorial to John Passidomo for his years of service in Harrison. It is in the village green in W Harrison.

Weeping Cherry trees bloom the last two weeks of April. Cherry trees bloom first two weeks of May. Discussion for cherry blossom festival tabled for future date; maybe can be part of the Arbor day festivities.

Gateway Signs: Proposal partially submitted but planting needs to be done prior so signs will be put on hold and bid out appropriately when time allows. Same with Petti John Park sign. Formal bids must be submitted for any project in town.

Website: Still under construction. Address is <http://hbc.harrison-ny.gov>

Holiday Decorations: Proposed budget passed for \$68,000 is being sent out to bid. Mayor Malfitano said we would definitely see lights this holiday season. Will have a tree lighting ceremony this season. The date for West Harrison is set for December 2, and Downtown has to be determined. Quotes for snowflakes will go out next week. Can we do tree wraps- they will have to send out for permits to Con Edison for electricity. List of trees for wraps to be submitted in 2-3 weeks to Commissioner Wasp.

Spring Planting: Flowers are to be delivered on Friday. Maria Gisondi and Camille Gladstone will plant the large corner planter at Food Emporium. Helen Pesce and Barbara Malfitano will do Harrison Avenue by parking lot. Denise DiBiasi will do Petti John Park. On May 21, 2005 Denise DiBiasi will plant West Harrison plots, she will need help with perennial garden. Bob Wasp will look into providing some town employees to assist with plantings to do on Friday; town employees do not work on Saturdays.

Please email ideas for spring and fall plantings. Perennials would be best, possibly Alyssum and Shasta Daisies. Fall plantings need to be finalized by next meeting. Mayor Malfitano said hanging baskets should start immediately at appropriate heights.

New Business:

Certificates of Appreciation: Volunteers who help with plantings and such should receive certificates of appreciation with town seal thanking them for their hard work. Business' that do a great job should get an award. Chamber of Commerce does not currently do this but Ms. Angarano would like it to be known that the Chamber was first in town to light the trees. Kudos! Can we incorporate certificates of appreciation to our web page? Ada Angarano will chair this committee and there will be a vote prior to certificates awarded.

Memorials: Teak benches can be donated in memory of people. There needs to be certain criteria for planting trees in memory. Denise DiBiasi will chair this committee. Interested parties in donating trees will be forwarded to purchasing.

Tree Lighting Ceremonies: Will contact Fred Pasqua to see if the children can do caroling. Christmas trees are not religious symbols. All holidays should be recognized and acknowledged.

Snowflake Ball: It is agreed that if it does not happen this year we should not do at all. Everyone agreed that this is a great idea. We can have snowflake ball without forming a foundation- checks will have to be made payable to Town of Harrison with a memo for beautification. This would be fully tax deductible as per Joan Walsh. Maria Gisondi and Camille Gladstone will chair the snowflake ball.

It is agreed that the standards of Harrison Beautification Committee need to be raised. Should we have a membership application and a stronger commitment from members?

Harrison Beautification Committee will be recognized in the Harrison Herald- look for us in next issue.

It was posed if we should try evening meetings in the future with the hopes of more participation.

Motion to close meeting: Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted by:

Maria Gisondi