



COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING SUMAMRY

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2019 – 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Participating CEC Members: Sue Callaway, Chair; Donna Farrow; Diann Nazarian; Kent Stephan; and Bobbe Stephan. Carol Stevenson and Jon Stiffler were absent. Peggy Tinklepaugh and Susan Spingler were invited public guests who expressed signed interest in becoming CEC members at the Anniversary event.

Review and Approval of April 2019 CEC Meeting Minutes: After review, a motion was made by Diann Nazarian and seconded by Kent Stephan to approve the minutes. The vote was unanimous and final minutes were forwarded to Pam Smith for final posting.

Comments from property owners and CEC members

Diann Nazarian inquired about the police parking in the median and if there were still designated areas. Sue Callaway responded that she had already forwarded an email to the Town Manager asking her to inform the new chief of the agreed upon parking spots. Sue has not noticed any violations of that agreement. Diann also mentioned the "lack of wow factor with the crepe myrtles along the Route 1 medians." We continue to see that they do not have the impact that we had planned however members commented that the timing and degree of blooms are not consistent among many crepe myrtles. Sue however agreed to once again check with Rick Gentile regarding reviewing the condition of the soil and if we should add a product like triple phosphate?

Donna Farrow asked if the town was spraying the weeds near her mailbox as the plants she had are dying. While doubtful, Donna was asked to check with Rick and Jon and see if that is the case.

Kent Stephan suggested creating an online and paper Recognition Board to showcase South Bethany's volunteer participation. Sue noted that the CEC originally did that with the adopters within our CEC website, but was willing to see if we could resurrect it!

Sue Callaway presented a suggestion from homeowner Steve Bunoski about establishing a portable pickleball court on the Town Hall parking lot during the weekends. The group voted to *not* pursue this idea.

Brief review of 50th Anniversary events sponsored by CEC

Sue presented a summary of the CEC and other town-sponsored events of the 50th Anniversary and thanked the CEC volunteers for all their support and work. A final summary of the event and photos was prepared by Sue and sent via Email News Update the week of July 24th. Sue will also be preparing a followup survey to those who participated in the cornhole tournament to see if people are interested in participating and helping with a future tournament. Sue stated that while the tournament was very successful, it was a great deal of work.

Update from Department of Public Works - Jon Stiffler, Public Works

In his absence, the group reviewed Jon's list of tasks accomplished. After a member comment, the group also discussed that many boat ramps are in need of repair and whether the condition of boat ramps are assessed when PW does their annual review of docks and bulkheads. They agreed to follow-up with Public Works.

Sue noted that with the addition of Ryan coming on board full-time to assist code enforcement, she is hopeful that property maintenance code violations are more consistently responded to and addressed. The group reviewed the attached flyer, "*Beautifying South Bethany Makes Dollars and Sense,*" that lists such maintenance items and covers the items of most concern to CEC and can be the most helpful to enhancing our community. Sue will forward flyer to PW and Code Enforcement as a reference.

Update on 2019 Adopt-A-Canal/Road End Contest

Sue announced that she and Bobbe Stephan had installed all adopt contest signs on July 17th. Sue has completed all photos and has been working with Pam Smith on the content and format of the Adopt Contest form. The Contest Email News Update Announcement was prepared and sent out July 19th and the online voting went live as well. The contest will run until August 19th.

Discussion of Future CEC initiatives

Sue re-presented the FY 20 budget so the group could review the proposed and approved budgeted items. The following were discussed and preliminary steps proposed to begin the associated work:

- *Ocean Drive Art Work* – 8 new boards were approved; discussion centered around receiving original artwork and photography and the steps involved with each. It was agreed that as long as the older original boards are in good shape to continue to circulate them among the new boards. Detailed information will be confirmed at the fall meetings so that January public announcements can be made. It was also agreed to require the work be local coastal scenes and have a small group choose the work rather than the entire committee as done previously.
- *Healthy South Bethany Walking Map* – Sue noted that she had begun to explore some of existing town maps to see if they are suitable for the graphic designer to work from. The budget calls for 5 free-standing walking maps to be placed around town and will look similar to the historic signs on Russell Road. Work continues on this initiative along with a request to the Fitness grantor to include costs for this project to be covered by remaining fitness funds. Sue’s goal is to have these available for an April Earth Day (2020) debut.
- *Photography Exhibit* – The group has budgeted for an early summer photography exhibit with funds being spent prior to May 1. Decisions regarding the inclusion of original art as well as photography will be made at the September meeting. With interest expressed by Susan Spingler to be on the CEC, Sue agreed to chat with her about helping to organize the event and content.

Schedule for September meeting

The CEC will meet on Thursday, September 12, 2019 at 10:00 AM