

Beautification Committee Minutes
Meeting on October 21, 2024 at 7:00 pm
In Person at Cyndie Stetson's Home

1. Called to order at 7:10 pm. Present were Cyndie Stetson, Dawn Beaumier, Virginia Gary and Ann Grieco.
2. Old Business: Members have continued weeding, cutting back lilies, removing dead stalks and finishing fall clean up around town. Cyndie placed a request in the November Goal Post asking residents to help us with weeding, clean up and other tasks. Ann agreed to weed and pull out petunias by Pelham Lake Park sign. We decided to keep fall decorations going a little longer before changing over to holiday decorations and will make sure decorations are placed in the ground before it freezes.
3. New Business: Discussed what plants to use in the fountain and cleaning up around Brittingham Hill. Virginia bought pots and window boxes and will submit remaining receipts for reimbursement to Donna at Town Hall. Craig will drill holes in the pots, then Cyndie will store pots and planters over the winter.

Cyndie: Tom Chiafalo suggested starting a garden club where members could get together, peruse gardens, make suggestions and share ideas. We like the idea, but feel that Tom (or someone else) should run it.

We talked about the timing of next year's Garden Tour and agreed that it should not be held on the same day as the Summer Social. Perhaps July? Four more gardens will be included. Cyndie will ask Anna to include her garden again, and Faith Travis agreed to include her gardens. More time is needed for the tour—perhaps 5-6 hours, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm? If hours are extended, where are restrooms available for people on the tour? Also, a meal (box lunch?) and/or snacks should probably be provided. Dawn suggested discussing the idea of providing a meal or snacks with Clay from the Rowe Center, where restrooms and a space for people to eat are also available.

Now that there is electricity at the gazebo, we want to decorate with strings of white lights, placed on a timer. (Does Donna have lights to donate?) Town tree will also have white lights. Plants in window boxes will be replaced with evergreen boughs, to be cut in mid-November. Decorations will include silver ribbons. Donna will care for outdoor plants (to be brought indoors) over the winter.

On Veteran's Day, November 11, 2025 at 11:00 am, Cyndie is hosting an event honoring those who served our country. People will meet at the Veteran's Memorial by town hall.

Next year, we would like to create a new garden outside the gates of the Refuse Gardens. Also, should we use money from the budget to purchase some type of hardscape, such as a sculpture, to be placed somewhere in town?

4. Citizens Comments: None.
5. Next Meeting: Monday November 19, 2025 at 7:00 pm at Cyndie Stetson's home.
6. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.