



# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

## Ad Hoc Ellington Beautification Committee

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

KATHERINE HEMINWAY  
CHAIRMAN

JOE PALOMBIZIO  
VICE CHAIRMAN

CAROLE GERBER  
KAY LUGINBUHL  
MAUREEN ECKELS  
ALYCE MAYER  
MAGGIE STABINSKY

AD HOC ELLINGTON  
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
Special Meeting Minutes  
September 1, 2020  
Nellie McKnight Museum

MEMBERS PRESENT: Maureen Eckels, Joe Palombizio, Kathy Heminway, Carole Gerber, Maggie Stabinsky

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kay Luginbuhl, Alyce Mayer

OTHERS PRESENT: Laura Mateya, Jessica Regan, Julia Connor, Mark Maciolek, Sharon McLaughlin

### I. Call to Order

Chairman Kathy Heminway called the meeting to order at 6:16 p.m.

### II. Approval of Minutes

A. October 29, 2019

MOVED (PALOMBIZIO), SECONDED (GERBER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE AD HOC ELLINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 29, 2019.

### III. End of Season Cleanup

Brief discussion was held as an overview of recent independent activity by the members, as the Committee hasn't been able to formally meet in a while, due to COVID-19. Mr. Palombizio has been watering plants at Town Hall and the rotary, and Ms. Heminway has kept an eye on the planters over the summer. Some of the pots are in good shape and don't need much work at this time; however, there are a few that will need to be cleared and replanted, including a couple at Hall Memorial Library, in front of Town Hall, and around Arbor Commons. Ms. Heminway indicated that she'd like these pots replanted by September 14; members volunteered for the various areas, and will let Ms. Heminway know what supplies and assistance they need.

#### IV. Scarecrow Contest

Ms. Heminway expressed her desire to start a Harvest Fest in Town; obviously, this year isn't a possibility, but perhaps next fall it could be planned for. This year, the Committee is joining together with the Nellie McKnight Museum for the Scarecrow Contest, to tie it in with the Museum's Grand Opening scheduled for Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Heminway will ask Harris Cohen for donations of mums, pumpkins and hay bales, depending on what's available. An antique tractor will be brought to the Museum and decorated, topped with a scarecrow. It was reported that Alyce Mayer is planning to make a Grim Reaper scarecrow for the Town Hall Annex. A general theme of "old farm country" was decided on for the scarecrows being displayed around Town and the Museum; some props will be utilized to make it really creative this year. There was a suggestion to reach out to the school art departments to see if they'd like to create a scarecrow for the Museum as well.

Sharon McLaughlin introduced the idea of adding a pumpkin carving/decorating contest this year, which the Committee members were enthusiastic about. It was decided to use some combination of hay bales and barn wood to display these by the Museum; the voting will take place on October 17 during the Grand Opening.

Ms. Connor will begin getting the word out about the contests through various channels. The Scarecrow Contest will officially begin on October 1 and entries will be displayed through Saturday, October 31; participants will need to clear their scarecrows by Saturday, November 7 or they will be removed by the Public Works Department. Online voting for the Scarecrow Contest Fan Favorite will run between Monday, October 12 and Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>; however, entries can be received after this start date. Entrants will be asked to submit a photo of their creation, and display areas on the Town Green will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

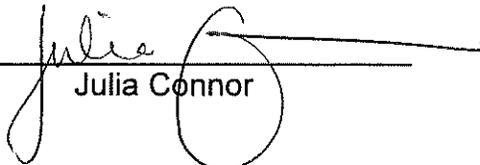
Due to the perishable nature of the pumpkins, these entries will be displayed on October 17; they will need to be placed by 9:30 that morning at the latest. After the judging is completed that day, or on Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, the creators can bring them back home or dispose of them. More information on the display areas will be sent out to any interested parties.

#### V. Next Meeting

The members agreed to hold a working meeting on September 19 at 3:00 pm at the Nellie McKnight Museum; they will start collecting clothing, props and other items so that scarecrow assembly can take place that day.

#### VI. Adjournment

MOVED (HEMINWAY), SECONDED (PALOMBIZIO) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:08 PM.

Submitted by   
Julia Connor