

FINALIZED

Borough of Litchfield
Board of Warden & Burgesses
Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 30, 2022

Present: Gayle Carr, Senior Burgess and Acting Warden; Peter Vermilyea, Burgess; Stephan Krucker, Burgess; Roberta Witty, Burgess; Lara Hillman, Burgess; Cassandra Simoncelli, Borough Clerk.

Also Present: Dirk Patterson

I. Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by G. Carr.

II. Discussion/Presentation of Heritage Plan with Dirk Patterson:

- Dirk provided a brief history of Litchfield, along with the background of the Heritage Plan and what its purpose is and how it should be implemented.
- Discussed how certain additions could impede existing things on the Green such as parking spaces etc. and ways to work around them or what could be implemented in lieu of.
- Discussion regarding the sidewalks and their current state vs. the proposed look. Talked about looking at finding a match to replace what we currently have to help make them last longer and be able to withstand the wear and tear of the harsh winter weather that we can potentially have. Specifically the bricks on the sidewalks. Suggestion made on finding more funding to help upset the costs of replacing the sidewalks since it is such an extensive and expensive project to undertake.
- Discussed the different lighting fixtures that can be implemented through the Heritage Plan and ownership of light posts. EverSource owns some, the Borough owns some, and the Town owns some. EverSource is no longer allowed to change the one light post as it violates the Dark Skies statute from the State of Connecticut. Lamp post in question may need to be changed out sooner rather than later due to this issue.
- Center Green is marked as the priority project, West Green second, East Green last. But the ultimate decision is up to the Borough. Which is why some focus has already been given to the East Green, ie: the monuments on East Green, and removal and planting of trees that have already taken place.
- Monuments and moving them for their protection and preservation.
- Suggestion made to reach out to local Cemeteries for their recommendation of conserving the monuments and how to properly move them without causing damage.
- Pointed out what trees need to be removed due to being an invasive species and what to plant in place of. And how many of those have already been taken care of.
- Mentioned that plants/trees should not be planted out of order. Discussion regarding what areas are next and making sure to stagger the planting of trees. Would like to plant more trees before moving on to planting shrubs.
- Suggestion made to contact White Flower Farm for donation.
- Touched upon the plaques in the ground and leaving them as they are and where they are as opposed to moving them.
- Plan doesn't give specs on the specific lights to implement. Dirk provided a recommendation on a company to use that would be helpful with determining what type of lighting and what fixtures should be chosen for this project.

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- Further discussion regarding illuminating certain areas with more lighting to make them safer for pedestrians.
- Discussion and suggestions made about where to place new crosswalks to make them safer for pedestrians and how implanting these changes would work.
- Touched upon the topic of money- how to reach out to/partner with: Litchfield Conservancy has money that they would be willing to donate.
- Do not decrease taxes until solution on how to pay for sidewalks will happen. Specifically not repairing them but replacing them.
- Old Christmas Tree on green- should have been cut down. According to the Heritage Plan the Evergreen does not belong on the green. Tree should be cut down.

III. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Peter Vermilyea seconded by Roberta Witty at 8:19pm.
Motion was unanimously carried.

Cassandra Simoncelli, Clerk