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**Town of Boscawen
Circle Committee
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 7:00 PM**

Members Present: John Keegan, Chairman, Jeff Abbe, Beverly Drouin,
Excused: Julie Fournier, Paul Dickey - Ex-Officio
Others Present: Kearsten O'Brien-Planning & Community Development

Chair John Keegan opened the public meeting at 7:00 P.M.

Chair Keegan read off the Covid-19 Public Meeting Notice of Telephonic Meetings, which reads as follows: In light of the state of emergency declared by the Governor on March 13, 2020, and to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, the chair has determined that an emergency exists and that accordingly, until further notice, (a) members of the board may attend all board meetings telephonically, without the physical presence of a quorum; and (b) members of the public who wish to participate in hearings may, on request, participate telephonically or submit comments in writing to be included in the record of the hearing.

Roll Call: completed and guests introduced.

Draft Minutes: Motion to accept the amended 10.21.20 draft minutes by Mr. Abbe and second by Ms. Drouin. Corrections: Line 30 Unutil spelling corrected and Lines 30, 36 and 39 Keegan spelling corrected. All in favor.

Accountant Report: Reviewed Balance as of 11.17.20 is \$3,134.50

Old Business:

- **Activity Update:** Ms. Drouin reported that on the 7th or 8th, she, along with Jeff and Judith Abbe, Julie Fournier planted over 700 red, yellow and white bulbs in clusters at random throughout the circle, but at least 7 feet from the perimeter. Also, planted a circle of flowers around the flag pole. She took pictures of the circle which were posted to the community Facebook page. She consistently includes a pitch for funding support, including how to make a donation. To date there had been 250+ positive comments on this Facebook page. One post included a note to not obstruct vision with spring plantings. She contacted the person to assure him this will be done.

Mr. Abbe reported he and Julie planted the bulbs around the sign, which Public Works had installed on November 13th. He noted that Dean and his crew had done a 'great job' keeping the mulch clean. He noted that Colby Lumber had donated the mulch per and email he received today, November 18th.

41 Chair Keegan reviewed the ‘thank you’ letters he had done: Public Works, GMI, and Stan
42 Balch at Unitil. Related to Phase II, he has contacted Doug Thomson for pricing of the
43 irrigation system. He estimates \$2,300. EJP (Prescott) price for the delivery line and related
44 parts is in flux. Mr. Whiteman, EJP’s representative, did not have an updated price but Chair
45 Keegan is using \$4,400 for planning purposes. This is higher than the 2020 price. Mr.
46 Whiteman reported that any quote would only have a 30 day life from the date posted.
47 Pending, is contact with the Penacook Boscawen Water Precinct (PBWP) to confirm the
48 \$1,300 cost for the hook-up and related materials. Plantings and maintenance are the other
49 major out-of-pocket cost. Chair Keegan estimates \$2,700. The total cash needs are \$10,700
50 less cash on hand, \$3,000. Thus, \$7,600 will need to be raised for Phase II. At this point,
51 based on the consensus of the members Chair Keegan will present the \$7,600 figure to the
52 Select Board on the 19th. There are no labor or machinery costs included, except, perhaps
53 \$300 for a trencher. Doug Thomson will provide labor for line and irrigation system
54 installation.

- 55 • **Pending Tasks:** Ms. Drouin has thank you letters pending to Suzanne Maze and Adele
56 Sanborn. She also plans to contact Cindy Merino in Salisbury, who had offered bulbs to
57 thank her and share with her plans for Phase II in the spring. Ms. Drouin will reach out to
58 attendees at the Twiggs Event to request photos for use on Facebook as part of the
59 committee’s campaign to keep the Roundabout Project visible to the public for Phase II
60 fundraising.

61 Chair Keegan will do ‘thank you’ letters to the Police Department and Ted Merrow at the
62 Veterans Cemetery

63 **Fundraising:** Chair Keegan explained he had contacted Lyman Cousins concerning
64 fundraising with local businesses and individuals on the Old Home Day (OHD) funding list.
65 He has good rapport with the Select Board members and explained to them the one time
66 Circle Committee funding request do not put OHD fundraising at risk. He may also assist
67 with contacting potential funders.

68 Public media is another potential facet for fundraising. The *Concord Monitor*, local news
69 vines and local papers can reach the public with our message. Ms. Drouin expressed an
70 interest in this work.

71 Members’ brain stormed about other potential sources. Among those mentioned were:
72 Penacook Legion, Chair Kegan will make this contact another was Country government.
73 Members are skeptical but agreed to seek guidance from the Select Board. Mr. Abbe
74 mentioned Avaloch Farm Music Institute. He knows Mason Donovan, an administrator at the
75 school and will contact Mr. Donavon. Discussion moved to possibilities with Penacook
76 merchants such as the pharmacy and hardware store. Chair Keegan will talk with them. Dr.
77 Gabrielle is another possibility .Mr. Abbe knows him and will contact him. Discussion then
78 focused on fundraising in town. The hypothetical was raised concerning an individual
79 opening a ‘go fund me’ account for this project. Chair Keegan indicated that it would be that

80 individual's option and responsibility. The Select Board has been clear that committee
81 members could not have any relationship either direct or indirect with such an endeavor.

82 **Plantings:** Chair Keegan started by identifying two significant resources at hand. Lorrie
83 Carey's daughter, Monica Matthews and Nancy Towle at Black Forest. With Ms. ?a Go to
84 Meeting session could be set up to look at the budget and broad plans for the plantings,
85 including the line-of-sight, density, irrigation lay-out, ease of care, etc. There was agreement
86 to do this as part of a regular meeting. Ms. Drouin suggested, and all agreed, that we would
87 then have a separate meeting with Nancy Towle. She is a potential supplier and could
88 address issues around specific cultivars and related details. Mr. Abbe has been in contact
89 with her and noted she would like to be involved. Ms. Drouin sees her regularly and will
90 engage her around our plans and how best to proceed. Discussion moved to decision making
91 as we face recommendations and options from various people. Chair Keegan noted that this
92 Committee has the duty and responsibility for the decisions that will be reviewed by
93 NHDOT. Our decisions will be based on common sense about what will grow and thrive in
94 this environment and the guidance received to meet NHDOT parameters for line-of-site,
95 density, historically successful plantings, etc. Mr. Abbe is has worked with current NHDOT
96 landscapers who might assist us as we work with the resource people already identified.
97 Chair Keegan identified another potential plantings source, the State Forest Nursey. He will
98 call and inquire if their spring catalogue will have any native plants appropriate for the circle.
99 Two final decisions related to plantings are: no multiflora rose or other plants difficult to
100 work around and Ms. Drouin will research the issue of salt tolerant plants, including
101 evergreens that could be planted within seven feet of the truck apron. She will research prior
102 minutes for background and provide clarification at the next meeting.

103 **New Business:**

- 104 • Ms. Drouin will make a list of donors/supporters who need to be thanked which she will
105 circulate for additions and revisions.

106 **Adjournment:**

- 107 • Motion to adjourn by Ms. Drouin; seconded by Mr. Abbe. All in favor. None opposed.

108 **Next Meeting:**

- 109 • Monday, December 14, 2020 @7:00PM

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