

**TOWN OF BLUFFTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE**  
**Council Chambers Meeting Room, Theodore D. Washington Municipal Building**  
**Thursday, January 18, 2024**

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Bowen called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

**II. ROLL CALL**

PRESENT

- Chairmen John Bowen
- Dot Jeger
- Dan Ciuffreda
- Darlene Heinig
- Jessica Palladino

**III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Bowen made a motion to approve the January 18, 2024, Beautification Committee agenda. Ciuffreda seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**IV. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES – September 21, 2023**

Bowen made a motion to approve the September 21, 2023, Beautification Committee minutes. Jeger seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**V. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Sandy Stead introduced herself to the Committee and explained that she is new to the area and is very much interested in the Beautification Committee and what it has to offer.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

1. Coaxum brought up two events that will be coming up soon; Earth Day and Arbor Day and asked the committee for suggestions to where to plant a tree. The committee collectively decided on Buckwalter Park.
2. Coaxum mentioned that Town has gained another open space / park at New River Village development across the street from the New Barn Park. The Town has also approved the purchase of property located at the corner of Buckwalter Parkway and Buck Island Road across the street from Eagles Fields.
3. Coaxum discussed the difference between Earth Day and Arbor Day and let the committee know that he will be sending the committee a reminder when the dates for each upcoming event are held.

4. Palladino asked about testing the soil at Evicore and the availability of the committee having access of the results.
5. Coaxum discussed annual spring planting of the landscaping pots. Bowen asked if the Town will be replacing the pots anytime soon. Coaxum discussed that the pots that we currently have are no longer in production. He suggested that the committee think of some ideas regarding pot replacement.
6. Jeger asked what the Town planned to do with the newly purchased property. Coaxum mentioned that the Town is working with the Buckwalter/Simmons ville community to decide what will work best for the community.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Coaxum mentioned that budget will be coming up soon and asked the committee for ideas for the upcoming fiscal year. Also, the committee wanted to know if there were any grants available. Coaxum mentioned that the only outstanding grants are the New River Trail and New River Barn Park. He asked the committee to let him know of any grants that they are aware of and Town Staff will research it. He also mentioned that the Town has a Tree Bank Account that can be used to plant additional trees.
2. Jeger asked about the status of the bike trail that is supposed to go from Buckwalter to 170. Coaxum mentioned that it's a Beaufort County project and he will check on the status and will report to the committee at the next meeting.

## **VIII. DISCUSSION**

Coaxum discussed an email that was provided by Watershed and stated that planting will need to be included within the New Riverside Pond area. He also mentioned that the committee will go on a tour in the near future to visit the area.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The January 18, 2024, Beautification Committee Meeting adjourned at 09:36 a.m.