

## Litchfield Beautification Commission

Minutes September 30, 2016, 2:00pm

In attendance: In attendance: Anna Heys, Betty Eisenhaure, Ruth Erickson, Margy Miner, Cindy Swope and Ben FitzGerald (guest)

Anna reviewed donations given for the restoration of the traffic islands in memory of Jeanne FitzGerald. At that point, there was \$795 received. Anna had met with Leo who told her that the moneys donated would roll over into the next year's budget if not spent and would be the Commission's to do with as they wished.

Thank you notes were being ordered by Anna and Cindy would write the notes.

Because of the cost of the island restoration, sealed bids were recommended by Raz Alexe. Bidding would be open for 30 days. Because of the timing, it was agreed by the members that the project should be done in the Spring.

Anna contacted John McKenna of the Republic American to run a story about Jeanne and the traffic islands, also to solicit new members for the commission.

A stone marker for the islands with Jeanne's name on it was discussed. Anna suggested a marker similar to the one in the town parking lot behind the shops on West St. and all thought this would be appropriate.

Ben FitzGerald discussed his family's efforts to raise money by placing poster boards in the Community Center, letters on public bulletin boards and an article in the Litchfield BZ. Ben also suggested that funds raised could be used as possible seed money for a foundation.

Seherr-Thoss Foundation grant with a March application was discussed. With a matching grant, not all the funds donated would be used for the traffic islands. Maintenance planning is essential for grant proposal, and numerous ideas were discussed, with the conclusion that the Commission should pay someone to do maintenance. Also the Litchfield Garden Club is looking to the Commission to maintain the island they restored.

Next meeting October 28, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in the Litchfield Community Center.