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BLOOMFIELD, CT

Bloomfield Beautification Committee (BBC) Meeting Minutes
Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2026
Location: Town Hall Conference Room 2
Present: Sharon Mann, Gwen Finlay, Ruthie Wilkinson, Peter Russell, Ruth Hanks, Bart Ritson, Karolina Young, Claire Ross. *Welcome Lisa Bennett*
Absent: Mary Briggs, Rise Cappadona, Beverly Blonder & Dayle Harmon
Meeting Began at 5:30pm and adjourned at 7:02pm
Approval of Meeting April 28, 2026
Motion approved by Gwen Finlay and second by Ruthie Wilkinson.

Old Business

A. Spring Maintenance Update
May 9tj Sat/ & May 12th Tues. Planting of canna lilies. Time 9am-11am. Meet at
PLANTING LOCATIONS: Start at Town Hall
Town Hall, Municipal Pool, Town Green

B. Memorial Day Ceremony Preparation
DPW will begin spraying mulch at town hall beginning on May 4, 2026.
Planting annual plants. Planting dates will be Friday, May 15th and Saturday May 16th from 9am -11am. Rain date is May 18th. Meet at Town Hall,
PLANTING LOCATIONS: Town Hall, Town Green, 330 Park Ave electrical sign, Following Week- Mary Hill, Park Ave Electronic sign, DPW, Blue Hills Library & Police Department. Municipal pool.

C. Garden Maintenance Reports
POLICE DEPARTMENT has been trimmed and ready for annuals.
Gwen & Claire did clean up at Mary Hill with another date to complete clean up.
TOWN HALL-The pollinator garden needs cutting back of daffodils once they yellow. Two Viburnum shrubs need to be reduced by half. Maple tree in front bed appears to have died. Will need to be removed. Ron Catherine and Sharon will prune Fan Tail willow in birdbath garden. Want to remove ornamental grass miscanthus near hosta west side. Too large for location. Cut rear grasses in late May to keep them shorter.

D. LASALETTE PARK Earth Day April 22, 2026.
11 Cummins employees volunteered along with three treekeepers and Parks Director Dave Melesko. Cummins also provided lunch before entering designated areas in the park and cutting back invasive bittersweet and multiflora rosesand saving over 20 trees. Trees for Bloomfield provided T-shirts and tool along with a large Thank you sign.

D. Community Cleanup – there was no community cleanup this year. However, Parks Director will present a proposal submitted by BBC Chair. "Save Our Parks & Public Gardens" A three year to begin project:
Cleanup begins April – October on the first Saturday of each month for two hours with a different park or public garden being selected. Volunteers will be given t-shirts. Peter suggested an ice cream truck be available at the end of the work session for refreshments. The community, schools and local colleges would be recruited as a potential volunteer work force.

E. Trees for Bloomfield Treekeepers are doing inspection of trees planted in 2024 and 2025 May 22nd – May 31st. Notification will be sent to Tree keepers will with their assignment in the same area of town if possible and the homeowner will be notified by the tree keepers prior to their tree inspection. They will be provided TFB door hangers.

A. New Business
Sharon asked for $1,000 for the pollinator pathway garden. BBC is sponsoring a pollinator chapter with Cori Presutti as chair. Thirty-five people attended a lecture at Prosser Library on April 15th about using native pollinator plants. Cori is planning a possible plant sale in the fall as a fundraiser. There will be a pollinator garden on the west side of the town hall near the bus stop is being discussed as an educational tool in the Arboretum.

B. Notable landscape awards
Will be discussed at next meeting.

C. Plant pickup
Sharon is looking for someone to go with her to help select annuals on Monday May 11th.

D. DPW

- Bart plans on replacing rotted lumber edging at Mary Hill on all four sides in the front bed with the yucca plants.
- Garden beds at 330 Park Ave are sitting empty and no information was available on future plans.
- Water spigot will be turned on but not the sprinklers.
- Mario will maintain the cutting of grass.
- One boulder possibly hit by a snow plow in the winter will be taken care at the end of the week that is on the clock island edge.
- One of the DPW workers is retiring so there will be a shortage of help.
- John Kehoe is looking for planting or tree projects for his students
- Mario did an excellent job of installing a bluestone pad from recycled bluestone from Prosser Library in addition to planting of the white oak tree in honor of David Mann for Arbor Day Memorial.
- A bench similar to what is on the Town Green will be placed at the site along with a plaque in David's memory.
- Sharon asked again for a meeting with DPW and BBC to discuss maintenance responsibilities for 2026.

Next meeting May 26, 5:30 pm Room 2
Scribe: Ruth Hanks