Beautification Committee: Annandale

Minutes: March 18, 2014

Members Present: Bob Carroll Co-chair, Virginia Pates Recording Secretary, Ralph Nicasstri, Karen Bushaw-Newton, Shelly Slaey, Judy Miller, Nancy Chamberlain, Nancy Minogue, Dan Franssell, Bob Hull, Jenny Sullivan, Jennifer Sayasithsena.

1. February 11, 2014 minutes were approved.

2. Discussion with Will Flagler on door signs for emergency management personnel: postponed till April 8 meeting, 3-4 PM, CE President’s Dining Room.

3. Green Festival Update:

The Green Festival needs exposure. Please help by advertising this festival to your classes. Nancy C. would like help publicizing these significant changes to the Green Festival for 2014:

- The 2014 festival will focus on Environmental Education, and will be held on Tuesday, April 22, in the CE building and is open to the public.
- Registration is free and underway. You must register to receive breakfast and lunch.
- The guest speakers will be National Geographic, CNN’s 2013 Hero of the Year, Environmentalist, Mr. Chad Pregracke and Director of Smithsonian-Mason School of Conservation, Dr. Alonso Aquirre.
- There will be educational workshops on: Beekeeping, Rain Barrel Workshop, Bat Conservation, Tree Planting, Backyard Habitat, Climate Change and Our Oceans, Composting, Farm to Table, Waterstream Conservation, Top 10 Goof-ups People Make about Climate Change, Tree Give-a-ways, and Movie: Forks Over Knives.
- Work on The Rain Garden will take place during the week of the Festival.

4. Sub-committee Updates:

- Nature Trail Markers and Site Descriptions: The Nature Trail markers and interactive map was discussed. Virginia will continue working with Ceramics students to make ceramic markers and Nancy C. will be working with Parks and Recreation students to help research and photograph trees for the map content. Shelly will do the programming to make the map interactive. The sub-committee will seek the assistance of Sara Rilveria, the Landscape Architect for the Annandale Campus, to help verify the map and memorial tree information.
- Tunnel CE/CG Displays: Nancy C. indicated Kevin Sheehan was getting bids on the display cases.
• Cigarette Litter Prevention Program: Bob Hull and Judy Miller prepared and submitted a grant proposal for Cigarette Litter Prevention Program of Keep America Beautiful. The grant is for discouraging cigarette litter and the funding requested is $2,000, half to be spent on receptacles, 20 – 30% on Cigarette Litter Awareness plus 800 free portable auto or pocket ashtrays. The grant requires a several “litter scans”, which Nancy C. volunteered to conduct with her students, and a mid-year and final report, followed by a final follow-up litter scan. A cigarette butt recycling program may be part of this effort also. The committee discussed some ideas related to cigarette litter education and it was suggested that this information might be included in SDV classes. The committee discussed the need for developing and investing in an inviting area for smoking. The “No Smoking” signs are often ignored or even destroyed. Manassas appears satisfied with a gazebo for smoking which could be looked into for Annandale. There has been some college research indicating negative signage can actually promote noncompliance from students in their early college years.

5. New Business/Other:

Nancy M. presented an image of the new banner that has been designed for the upcoming Spring Arts Festival sponsored by the Liberal Arts Division. The banner will hang on the outside of the CM building facing the south parking lot for the month of April and is 4’ tall by 12’ wide. The banner was enthusiastically endorsed by the committee.

Meeting adjourned at 3:58 PM. Next meeting: April 8, 3-4 pm, CE President’s Dining Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Carroll and Virginia Pates