

Palmer Arboretum Committee
Minutes of the April 18, 2023 Meeting

Present on Zoom: Philippa, Charlotte, John, Denise, Sara joined us enroute

March minutes: Were approved with one revision-- budgeted account is \$3,199.92 (not \$3,299.92).

Art in the Park-May 6th 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Rachael joined us to discuss this event. She has shared with her students, but hasn't gotten much response. She will continue to promote and encourage student participation and was waiting until after break to push. Three students have shared they are very interested in making and submitting art.

Philippa shared that we don't need students for volunteers. Committee will cover this and provide snacks and water.

Rachael will be there at start of day and will need to leave by 1.

Rachael sent event info to art teachers at various schools. Only heard from Brooklyn. Rachael will send contact names to Philippa of art teachers, so Committee can follow up with outreach.

Rachael suggested putting event on Facebook and shared there is a separate page for the Palmer Arboretum. John clarified there is a page, but it's managed by the town of Woodstock.

Rachael will send flyer to Mom's Group in Woodstock. She suggested sending to the Complex and other places where people might be attending art classes. Also the town post offices, libraries, and places where Academy students park their cars were suggested as possibilities.

Also discussed having an activity for younger children and will have rocks to paint.

Philippa showed banners for the event.

John suggested Elaine Turner may have contacts for this event. Philippa shared that Elaine and the Art Guild will have folks present on that day. John and Charlotte will share info with Linda Kaplan's daughter.

Rachael left the meeting.

No word from WINY radio. Sara will follow up.

Treasurer's report

Charlotte reviewed the report she sent out. No changes since March.

Philippa discussed trees she is hoping to procure and plant, which Julian recommended. Also mentioned she has signed the mowing contract.

Julian Reese's Updated Report from Bartlett Tree Experts

Committee discussed changes and agreed to move forward. Philippa will sign and return contract. She will also follow up with him about being there on the April 27th work day to help plant trees.

Day of Service with Pomfret School Students on April 27th

10 to 12 students and 3 teachers will be there. Time is 10 to 2:30 p.m.

Discussed having cell phone offering and a 5-10 minute break every hour to check cell phones, offer water and snacks, and share info about a tree.

Sara suggested going over expectations with teachers ahead of time. Expectations include:

- Cell phones away when working.

- Work for about 45 minutes, break for 15 to Meet a Tree, Check Cell Phones, and Get Snack

- Dress appropriately for weather

- Bring lunch

Wedding

Sara's friend requested a wedding on October 7th in the Arboretum in the middle of the day. Expect 1 or 2 hours with about 20 guests. Sara suggested donation of \$100. They wondered about alternate venue in case of rain. Philippa said she will check with Jay about the possibility of using the Palmer Historical Society. John brought up concern if someone is hurt. Philippa shared we're covered by town insurance. Denise said she thought \$150 wasn't unreasonable.

Water Drainage System

David Faist installed drainage. Julian's question was what was his intention when it was installed and had a concern about the drainage system taking water away from

some of the trees. There is a hose and Philippa said we'll need to monitor the need for water over the summer. Philippa will follow up to see if she can contact David Faust.

Federated Garden Clubs of CT

Philippa shared that she hasn't heard about our membership with the Federated Garden Club of CT. Charlotte and John will be at a meeting tomorrow and will follow up on next steps.

Color in the Arboretum

Philippa mentioned that in the late summer there is a lack of color in the Arboretum and suggested finding some plantings that add color that time of year.

Shed keys

Philippa has keys to everyone for the shed and will distribute.

Next meeting on May 16th at 3:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Denise Esslinger

https://youtu.be/Fb_FjrU85wU