Village Green Committee Minutes, September 27, 2021

In attendance: Felicia Sartell, Peggy Cournoyer, Mackenzie Arndt, Gail Cromwell, Lori Sherbourne, Jennifer Kiley, Anne Lunt

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm.

First, we reviewed the VGC participation at the Harvest Festival that took place on Sunday September 19th. We raised a total of \$375 through a combination of food (beans, cornbread, brownies, pies), cookbooks and VGC tote bags. It was noted that many preferred the vegetarian option. The remaining cookbooks are being sold by Peggy at the Temple store for \$2 each. There were some remaining VGC tote bags left over as well. It was decided by Gail and Felicia to present all current members of the committee with their own tote bags. We will save the remaining tote bags for next year's Harvest Festival. Additional ideas for next year include having coffee, jams and jellies (Lori and Jen offered to make some), and ultimately more staff to work the table.

Second, we discussed our budget for next year. Our budget for this past year was \$4,000. Gail noted that this year we spent just under \$1,000. This included flower, soil, compost for the town common, help/salaries for maintenance and pruning, mulch, and planters. Of note, we did not purchase a tree this year. Gail proposed a budget of \$3,000 for 2022 and everyone was in favor.

Third, we discussed plans for wreaths during the winter months. The cost of these wreaths comes out of the trust fund which currently has \$3,975. In the past, wreaths have included 2 for the library, 2 for the town hall side doors, 2 for the town hall front doors, 2 for the church, 2 for the chapel, 1 for the Temple store, 1 for the post office and 2 for the municipal building. We also have artificial wreaths that have been used at the schoolhouse (6) and entrances to the common (2). Gail proposed a vote regarding real vs. artificial wreaths at the entrances to the common. All voted in favor of real wreaths instead of artificial ones. Gail will dispose of the artificial wreaths except for the 2 large wreaths that will stay at the schoolhouse.

Fourth, Gail explained the state of the trees on the common, including some that are decaying on the back side of the common. We would like to put in some replacement trees next year. Trees are usually \$300 each and we plan to budget for 3 trees. Decisions regarding type and location of trees will be discussed at future meetings.

Fifth, we discussed the possibility of having flowers on the common, either around the monuments, or separate flower beds. Gail noted that due to lack of water supply on the common, this would not be possible unless we establish a water source. Gail discussed the possibility of a small well on the common that would cost approximately \$15/foot to dig. Peggy refused this idea, and the consensus among most is that we will hold off on any water supply in the common at this time. We discussed placing various planters around the common instead.

The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved by all.

We will plan for our next meeting in November to hang the wreaths.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45pm.