

**Town of St. Johnsbury  
Beautification Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**October 14, 2025 at 11:00am  
St. Johnsbury Welcome Center, 2nd<sup>d</sup> Floor**

Committee Members Present: Jim & Lorrie Brown, Gena Glidden, Gillian Sewake, Heather Alger, Phoenix Anise, Vanessa Allen

Ex-officio: Steve Beauregard (Dept. of Public Works)

1. Open Meeting: Meeting called to order at 11:06am
2. Agenda Changes: Added approval of August 5 special meeting minutes to agenda.
3. Public Comment: Discussion of budget.
4. Approval of Minutes from 7/8/25 and Special Meeting 8/5/25

Heather moved to approve both sets of minutes as presented. Lorrie seconded. Unanimous approval

5. Fall & Winter Calendar:

Fall clean up:

- Planter clean up: DPW will remove planters this week. Committee members plan to meet Friday to remove plants and get out as many roots as possible. Heather would like to salvage the cannas, to see if the bulbs can overwinter and be reliably planted in future years to save money. She will call a community member who was interested to see if they can help.
- Flower beds: Committee members put their various beds to sleep for the winter. Gillian has some mums from Fall for St. J that can be used for fall planting if desired.
- Bulbs: Jim purchased some daffodils (which are resistant to rodents) and tulips. Others looking to purchase should cost out and ask Chad to prepare a PO.
- Welcome Sign beds: Maplefields has asked for no planting under the sign there (there's no raised bed) to make it easier to mow & maintain. For the others Gillian will coordinate volunteers to plant daffodils, possibly in late October.

Winter decorating:

- Committee discussed purchasing holiday snowflakes to be mounted on light posts instead of garlands and wreaths. Steve is getting pricing on those this week, in the hopes of making a purchase as soon as possible. We hope to get 2 different designs in a warm white, 30". Will keep string lights for decorative light poles on RR St.

- Will still do trees, plus wreaths and garland for Arnold Park & Depot Sq, and wreaths up Eastern on the larger poles.

6. Review spring/summer/fall:

Hanging baskets looked awesome. Will encourage Kingdom Gardens to keep them up through Indigenous People's Day. Jim will ask KG about color options for next year, hopefully maximizing the trailing affect. The committee likes the blue (dark purple) and yellow arrangement that was at the Welcome Center.

Planters also looked awesome. Committee will basically plan to repeat them in 2026. There was discussion of moving some planters up Eastern Avenue. Steve will look at purchasing 2 more to put on the brick bump outs across from the Distillery and another location TBC (one that isn't too slanted).

7. More recruitment methods & means:

Reminder to send notifications to the full volunteer list for engagement. The list can be found in the shared google doc.

8. Welcome Signs Report / 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration:

Welcome signs covered above.

BC celebration event was a success. Attendance was ok. Consider continuing it next year in mid-September (10-2), possibly in Depot Square Park instead. It can be a plant swap and volunteer appreciation event, with cake again!

9. Next Meeting in January:

Committee will keep the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday timing, at 11am, quarterly. Gillian will reach out to Rachel to reserve the conference room and send a calendar invitation to committee members.

For January meeting, include on the agenda to finalize the 2026 projects calendar, including discussion of a project to clean up Rt 2 (Portland Street), possibly in concert with local businesses/property owners.

10. Adjourn: Adjourned 12:23pm