

Johnson Beautification Committee - Meeting Minutes

Date: May 19, 2026

Attendees: Kyle Nuse, Lauren Phille, Adrienne Parker

I. Call to Order and Administrative Items

- The meeting was brought to order and there was no public comment.
- A motion was made to approve the March meeting minutes.
- The motion was seconded and the March minutes were approved with one abstention.

II. Project Updates

Animating Infrastructures Grant

- The committee received approval to proceed with the second part of the Animating Infrastructures grant.
- The mosaic artist, Mary Lacy, is five months pregnant but remains fully committed to completing the project.
- The committee requires a letter of support from the site owner, which is the Village.
- The committee is currently waiting on a response from Eric Bailey regarding this letter of support and plans to visit him in person if he does not reply by the end of the week.

Main Street Sculptures

- Michael Stanley has finished creating the abstract iron sculptures for Main Street and is currently painting them.
- Michael Stanley requested assistance from the Village crew to prepare the concrete pads and use a pole setter truck for installation.
- Eric Bailey responded that the Village will not approve the labor and requested to see photos of the sculptures prior to installation.
- The committee noted that providing pictures was not mandated in past minutes and agreed not to force the artist to provide photos before installation.
- The committee also noted that the grant budget already includes funds to pay for the Village crew's labor if needed.

Railroad Street Bridge

- The bunting currently hanging on the Railroad Street bridge is falling apart and needs to be removed.
- The committee will need a lift to remove the bunting, which costs between \$300 and \$600 to rent, unless they wait for Jason and the Village public works crew to assist.
- The committee plans to acquire two different decorations for the bridge moving forward, including large wreaths for the winter and a separate display for the summer.

Town of Johnson Sign & Powerhouse Bridge

- Lauren will purchase "Coast of Maine" soil and fertilizer from Farm & Garden for the Town of Johnson sign.
- The committee will plant pink flowers at the town sign.
- The committee decided against using large black bucket planters at the Powerhouse bridge this year, as the plants usually die from lack of daily watering.
- Instead, the committee will hang baskets and use standing pots at the Powerhouse bridge.
- Dee Lehouiller will handle the creation and hanging of these flower baskets.

III. New Business

Walmart Plant Donation & Planting Event

- A large quantity of free plants and annual flowers was recovered from Walmart dumpsters and is currently being stored in Adrian's driveway.
- These plants will be used in flower boxes for the Railroad bridge, Powerhouse bridge, and Cold Spring.
- The committee scheduled a working session at the Village Green (Audibert Green) for the upcoming weekend from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM to distribute and plant the flowers.

Mini-Grants Review

- Geraldine GG's application is currently pending because she has not responded to the committee's follow-up emails regarding the soil and plants she requested.
- Charles's application for tree cutting and brush clearing was denied due to projects lack of public exposure.
- Crystal's application for flowers was approved by the committee.
- The committee agreed to keep the mini-grant applications open year-round rather than closing them.

IV. Action Items

- **Committee Member:** Follow up with Eric Bailey in person regarding the Animating Infrastructures letter of support.
- **Lauren:** Purchase Coast of Maine soil and fertilizer from Farm & Garden, charged to the Beautification Committee.
- **Lauren:** Contact the mini-grant applicants to inform them of their approval or rejection.
- **Adrienne:** Post the updated plant swap/planting event flyer to the town Facebook page.
- **All Members:** Attend the planting session at the Village Green this weekend between 11:00 AM and 12:00 PM.