

BBC Minutes: October 28, 2025 Gwen Findlay - scribe

The meeting commenced at 5:35 pm. All members were in attendance, with the exception of Beverly, Ruthie and Bart. Meeting ended at 7 pm.

Minutes

The September 23 minutes were approved by Gwen Findlay and Rise Cappadona seconded.

Notable Landscape Awards

Mary Briggs sent Post cards (designed and printed by Sharon Mann) to the 17 (seventeen) people who were nominated but did not receive awards in appreciation for their efforts.

Town Gardens

All of the Town's public gardens continue to be in flower and maintained as we approach the cold season. The water has been turned off for the winter at all Town gardens as of October 28th. We need to find ways to find residents who are willing to volunteer and assist with cleanup efforts within the town.

New Rhody Garden at the east corner of Town Hall is being worked on by Josh Viera and Sharon Mann and will be completed in November by Keri Milne and Sharon, all members of the Rhododendron Society.

Fall Decoration

Wade's Farm stand will be donating pumpkins. We will need someone to volunteer to pick them up. Sharon will be ordering the cut greens from Hartford Floral Supply on Douglas Street in Bloomfield.

Hanging Cone Baskets at Town Hall Entry

Plans are to request DPW to remove the hanging baskets and deliver them to 1 Adams Road. We will replace the plants currently in these baskets with Christmas greenery and winterberries and rehang them from December through March. The current plan is to have this completed before Thanksgiving. **Date to assemble baskets is 10 am Thursday November 20 but was changed to November 24 at 9am.**

Trees For Free

A total of 34 trees were planted this year. Tree Keepers are scheduled to inspect trees planted in prior year during the month of November/Dec. but this has been changed to May of 2026.

Arbor Day Foundation Grant

We received a grant of \$16,000 from local business Cummins administered by the Arbor Day Foundation. This was used to remove invasives at LaSalette Park with Cummins employees, purchase 34 trees to give to homeowners through the TREES FOR BLOOMFIELD Community Giveaway Project, plant a White Dogwood at The Electronic Sign, plant a Black Tupelo and a Maple Tree on the Town Green by DPW, and 6 Blueberry bushes were planted at LaSalette Park by Sharon, Peter and Catherine Lyons. The remaining monies were used to keep the meadows at LaSalette Park free of invasives by hiring Ron Pitz to remove these plantings with his tractor. His progress was reported to Parks Director Dave Melesko.

Fall Cleanup

Brian and Peter dug up the cannas behind the electronic sign. Peter will enlist Brian's help in removing the remainder of the Cannas in November. There are cannas at Mary Hill, Town Hall and Municipal Pool remaining to be dug up after the first frosts. Gwen, Ruth, Claire and possibly Eunice will set a date to dig up the Cannas and spent annuals at Mary Hill.

BBC will enlist DPW to cut the ornamental zebra grass down at the police station.

The five current planters at 330 Park Ave will remain and annuals removed and greens added for the winter. The smaller blue planters will be put aside by the building for the winter.

New Business

DPW Report – Bart Ritson, DPW Liaison was absent therefore, there was no report.

Rise has gracefully agreed again to her host the annual Secret Ms. Claus Garden Potluck Brunch at her home in January. Moew details at our next meeting.

Dayle Harmon has agreed to be the Steward for Farming River Park. She will report to the chair of BBC the status of the park regarding maps needed and maintenance required and if anything is amiss. Sharon will report to the Parks Director Dayle's information.

Our Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 25th at 5:30 pm