



Town of Seymour
Beautification Commission (SBC)

Thursday, July 23, 2026 7:00 PM

Revised
Regular Meeting Minutes

Christopher Willis Conference Room
20 Pine Street 2nd Floor, Seymour, CT 06483

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 8/26/26
TIME: 2:20 PM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Members Present: Chairman Stuart Brannen; Vice-Chair Nancy Chucta; Secretary Jeff Baryla
Others: None.

Members Absent: JoElle Anderson, Zach Succow

1. Call to Order

Chairman Stuart Brannen called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM
All present stood, saluted the flag, and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

A quorum was established.

3. Public Comment

None present. The commission also received no written request for comment.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. April 23, 2026

Motion by J. Baryla to approve the Apr 23, 2026 regular meeting minutes, as presented. Seconded by N. Chucta. There was no discussion. *Motion carried 3-0.*

5. Reports & Correspondence

A. Monthly Trail Manager's Report

All commissioners reviewed the report. There were no questions or comments.

B. Emails/Letters to Commission

The board received no emails or letters of correspondence.

6. Old Business

A. Update on Collaboration with Seymour Land Trust

The board held an open discussion on this topic. Baryla shared that the second cleanup event of the Land Trust parcel was held on July 11. Brannen and Baryla both noted that, once again, no members or volunteers representing the Seymour Land Trust were present. Baryla reminded the board that any collaboration between the two entities ought to be 50:50. Chairman Brannen argued that it should be 70:30 for the cleanup, since this was the Land Trust's property. He felt that more representation should be coming from the Land Trust and its members. Additionally, all commissioners noticed that all promotion for the educational events has been coming from either SBC board members or the Town. No posts or advertisements are being shared by the Land Trust. Baryla will discuss this imbalance with Alex Danko, and ask for increased promotion and representation from the Land Trust regarding all future events. The next educational event is "The Closer You Look" on Friday August 14 at 5:00 PM in the Henry Hamel Environmental Building.

7. New Business

A. Revise and Approve Upcoming Event Schedule

The board openly discussed and agreed to the following dates/events:

Sat Jul 25 9:30 AM Work Party Little Laurel (knotweed)	Sat Aug 1 9:30 AM Work Party Gary Park (knotweed)	Fri Aug 14 5:00 PM Educational Event Land Trust Building	Sat Aug 15 9:30 AM Work Party Little Laurel (refresh trail blazes)
Sat Aug 22 9:30 AM Work Party Little Laurel (knotweed)	Sat Aug 29 9:30 AM Work Party Gary Park (knotweed)	Sat Sep 5 9:30 AM Work Party Gary Park (trail restoration)	Sat Sep 12 9:30 AM Work Party Keith Mitchell

Commissioners also shared their opinions on stretching themselves thin by focusing on too many properties/projects at once. Baryla noted he has done invasive plant management at eight (8) individual town-owned properties so far, not counting properties owned by the Land Trust [24 Chucta, 338 Roosevelt, 20A Edward, and 2 Butternut). Brannen urged a stronger focus on only properties that have or are planning to add/restore/improve trails. Chucta agreed, stating that invasive plant management is very important, and a rainbow bridge at the Dog Park is a great idea, but the boards' primary goal and reason for forming is to manage trails and improve passive recreation.

8. Public Comment

None.

9. Adjournment

Motion by N. Chucta. Seconded by S. Brannen.

All in favor (3-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Baryla

Secretary/Trail Manager

Seymour Beautification Commission will next meet on Thurs Aug 20 at 7:00 PM.