

Minutes of Northville Beautification Commission
August 18, 2014

Attendees: Tomiko Aoki, Patricia Baker, Koaki Beyersdorf, Doug Bingham, Bob Hayes, Sally Hayes, Nachi Hirato, Julie Mantay, Donna Moak, Diane Pittaway and Janet Young

Julie advised that Jim is on vacation this week. Julie welcomed everyone and thanked them for changing their schedules around to hold our meeting on a different day than normal. The downtown looks beautiful and Julie thanked everyone for their part in that.

Minutes: As there were no changes proposed to the June 30, 2014 minutes (which was actually our July meeting) Bob moved that they be accepted as written. Diane seconded. Minutes were approved without change and will be forwarded to Michelle Nabozny, Dianne Massa and Sue Hillebrand.

Treasurer's Report: Sally had nothing new to report. Our new fiscal year started July 1.

Emails: Thanks to Jan for the notification to everyone to be here and for keeping us advised.

Well Area: The well area looks gorgeous! Thanks to Diane for all of her hard work. She still has some things to do for next year. Phlox, echinacea and ferns are needed. She wants it to look natural by using plants native to Michigan. She needs some more materials and it was suggested that we approve her purchasing them. She explained her plan to add junipers, sedum, shrub roses, move rocks and finish spreading bark mulch. Bob made a motion to approve the purchase of the needed materials in the amount not to exceed \$400. Janet seconded the motion, which carried.

Cards: Thanks, Sally, for sending cards again. Steve (DPW employee) has had another round of chemo and Sally sent a card to him during this time. He is back now and seems to be doing well.

Deadheading Schedule: We had a little glitch on the initial schedule, but it has now been corrected. We have one more month to go as we deadhead until the Victorian Festival. Thanks, Pat, for preparing and distributing the schedules.

Eight Mile and Center: This garden did not get done. Before the Victorian Festival, Julie would like to set a date to weed and clean it up. The date was set for August 27, 4:00 p.m.

Beautification Awards: Thanks to Bob for coordinating and keeping track of all the scores. Some areas didn't get judged. Next year we should take the list of winners with us as a reference point. "Best in Town" went to Angela Carson. Doug suggested that our "Best in Town" sign should be even more bold than the other signs. Maybe change all signs? Julie will get a mock up of a new sign.

Diane will look at the scoring and tweak it for next year. She will bring a mock up to our next meeting in September. We should then look at scoring a few together and discuss, to make certain that we are looking at the same things.

Thanks to Doug for going to each of the winners and thanking them for their beautiful contribution to the City. He personally visited each one to give them their sign.

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Signs had to be picked up yesterday as it was the end of the approved period. Julie and her son picked them up.

Photographer: Donna told the story of how she found Mabby, the lady at Trader Joe's who took photographs of the winners for us. She and her supervisor, Darla, will be invited to the luncheon and maybe presented a special certificate. Is there something else we should do for them? Maybe we could get the mayor to present both the "Best in Town" and an award to Mabby and Trader Joe's. Julie will reach out to the Northville Record to get an article on this. Also we should do a special award to the Snyders for all of the work they have done on Northville Boulevard.

Michelle is sending out the invitations. If you have any additional people that you would like invited, please let Julie know by next Monday, August 25.

Jim advised via an email, that DTE is going to paint about 60 different units — boxes, panels and transformers in the near future. Jim is working with other utility companies to get the other boxes painted as well. He will take care of painting the City's boxes, so that they all look fresh and consistent in color.

Old Business: Nachi reported that guest members have not been able to help as much; several have gone back to Japan.

Nachi's Corner: Some of us will look at this area Thursday, August 21 at 10:00 a.m., to see what should be done.

At the September meeting, we need to take pictures of Doug, Tomiko and Bob.

If you have any photos from any of our plantings, please get them to Julie. Also, we need hard copies of photos for our records if you have them.

DPW Appreciation: Jan and Pat will take treats to the DPW yard sometime after the cider mill opens.

Our next meeting is September 8, at 8:00 a.m., at which time we will go over final details for the luncheon (which is Tuesday, September 30), discuss Nachi's Garden, take the needed photos, and give Doug time to bring up an issue that he wanted to discuss regarding Charlevoix.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Moak