

Minutes of Northville Beautification Commission Meeting

April 6, 2015

In attendance: Tomiko Aoki, Pat Baker, Doug Bingham, Jim Gallogly, Nadia Golinski, Sally Hayes, Nachi Hirato, Donna Moak, Diane Pittaway and Janet Young

Guests: Claudine Brissonnet, Terry Snyder, and Callie Milroy

Diane welcomed everyone and shared a couple of newspaper articles — one that featured Jim and the other about Northville being the fifteen best suburb in the U.S.

Minutes - Doug made a motion to accept the October 6, 2014, minutes as is. Janet seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - We were reminded to give bills for materials we purchase to Sally as we get them. The budget is July 1 through June 30, and we are on a five-year budget. Our current annual budget is \$2,400, which covers the cost of some of the plantings that we do, as well as the Beautification Awards at the end of season. Allen Terrace now covers their own flowers and DDA has taken over some of our former costs for plantings. Doug requested a running balance each meeting against the budget, which Sally feels she can do.

Seedling Giveaway - No seedling giveaway this year. Last year it was decided that we would just do this event every other year in conjunction with the Township.

Publicity - Julie may handle this for us.

Photographer - If anyone knows of someone who is willing to do on a regular basis, let us know. However, until we get someone to take this on, please remember to take photos as you work on areas.

Best-in-Town Sign - Donna will do.

Lily Bed in front of City Hall - Nadia and Diane cleaned up for the fall.

Center and Eight Mile - Terry and Diane worked on in October.

DPW Appreciation - Pat and Janet did in the fall.

Barrel Plantings - Flowers are ordered; the color palette was changed a little bit. Diane worked with Lori and Kate on this to coordinate colors for the barrels with their colors.

Gloves - Janet has new gloves in already, available for pick up today.

Beautification Shirts - Diane worked on having a logo on the front of the shirts, which we all liked, at an additional cost of \$3.00 per shirt.

Southeastern Michigan Beautification Commission - There is a meeting on June 18; Diane would like to attend, anyone else?

DPW Appreciation - We talked last year about having a gathering with the DPW workers early on. Maybe we could have them join us for coffee and bagels. Add a half hour to our meeting? However, we tabled this for now and will reconsider soon.

Planting dates (tentative):

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Barrel planting - Tentatively plant the stationary three-barrels in town May 21 (prior to the Memorial Day parade), then the balance of barrels May 28. We will watch the weather and determine whether or not to proceed with, or to do and cover them at night as necessary.

Clock - Nachi says should be done May 21, before parade.

Allen Terrace - May 29

Center Street - May 29

Well Barrels - May 28 (after the barrels are planted at DPW yard.)

Well Site - June 4 to plant this area. In addition, we may need to pull garlic mustard. Since it pulls much more easily after a rain, it was decided that we will call willing volunteers in May when the ground is wet if there is a need.

Hutton and Main - Nachi waits until water sprinkler heads and dirt is ready and then decides what date. So that date is to be advised.

Nachi's Corner - Diane's friend made a plan and we may try to implement. Jim's people will look at removing a little of the dirt, though he doesn't feel they can remove very much because of the tree that is there. Also, Jim will try to come up with some fair-sized stones to go along the edge to serve as a retainer for the dirt.

City Hall and Firehouse - May 29 - Donna

City Hall Fountain - Touch up, trim and weed - May 29

Lily Bed at City Hall - To be announced. Needs new mulch.

Griswold Street Sign - Maybe Bob would be willing to clean up? Callie will look at for plant material that will work well there since the boxwoods did not do well.

Eight Mile and Center Street - Terry and Diane did last year. We need to look at earlier this year to determine what needs to be done to better enhance this area, perhaps Terry can determine what needs to be done. Then we will set work date.

VFW - Terry will head up and advise date if she wants help here.

New Projects - Doug had previously furnished a list of items around town that need to be done, but we have to be careful about taking on too much. We will look at this list later.

Painting of Utility Boxes - Jim reported that all of DTE boxes were painted and look much better. There are still some other utility boxes to need to get painted. Jim is working with these utilities to get this accomplished.

Well Area - Behind the well on the sunny hill. Diane plans to plant butterfly attracting plants, such as milkweed. Callie and Diane will look into this and advise.

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Well Area - We need to add some ornamental grasses to the this area. Additionally, this area needs to be mulched and needs to have some buckthorn removal, but since this may require the use of glycoposphate, Diane would like to coordinate this project with the Rotary and, possibly, DPW.

Construction - Jim reported nothing planned for downtown. Rayson Street is the only project in the City that will be worked on as well as one of the streets in Northville Estates.

Well Area - Previously we had talked about getting a bike rack for the well site? Jim will check it out to see if he can find one.

We also need grass seed for the lawn area at well site to over seed. Jim will get this so that we can do.

Lily Bed in front of City Building - The bushes in the middle of the lily bed need to be trimmed. Jim will get done.

Beautification Awards - Diane distributed a new version of our checklist and we will review next month.

Guest members - Nachi will try to get new group of members to help out when they can; many of those who helped previously have gone back to Japan.

Meeting dates this year:

May 4

June 1

June 29

August 3

August 31

October 5

Donna made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Sally seconded.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Moak

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