

Minutes of Beautification Commission

May 4, 2015

In attendance: Tomiko Aoki, Doug Bingham, Jim Gallogly, Sally Hayes, Julie Mantay, Liliana Miyahara, Donna Moak, and Janet Young

Guest: Our new photographer, Gary Haas. We really appreciate Gary being with us this morning and for being willing to do some photography for us!

In Diane's absence, Sally welcomed and thanked everyone for their participation and volunteering.

She stated that the painted utility boxes add distinct class to our town. Thanks to Jim for getting this done and to Doug for making us aware of the need. Jim said that it was DTE is the one who had done the painting, and there is still more to do.

Thanks to Jim for the bike rack (which Diane requested last meeting) that has already been placed at the well site.

Rotary will be adding a mini-library to the well site. Jim explained that this is a national effort for the sharing of books and a way to recycle. Rotary is doing six of these for the community and this is one of the sites that they selected. Rotary built the boxes with the support and help of Home Depot. The Art House is painting them so that they should look really nice. This will be placed between the well and the river (at Diane's recommendation) and should draw more people to the area. A statistician determined the best locations for these free mini-libraries.

Thanks to Terry Snyder for making Northville Boulevard look so welcoming at the VFW site.

Minutes - A correction to last April minutes: delete "planting materials to plant the barrels" because the DDA purchases the flowers for the barrels. Julie made a motion to approve minutes with this modification. Janet seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Sally said that the \$2,400 that says "materials" has essentially been approved. We have until the end of June for this fiscal year budget and we have spent \$887 to date, though we still have invoices to come for the flowers that we do pay for (City Hall and Firehouse, well site, Center Street, Nachi's corner, and Eight and Center), any unused monies go to a reserve for future use for the Beautification Commission. Janet will pick up fertilizer and more t-shirts will be ordered against this year's budget.

Planting Schedule - Sally distributed a schedule of the planting dates to the group. We really need more helpers on each project. Janet suggested we focus on May and wait until our next meeting to focus on the needs for June. A copy of the schedule is attached.

New Business - Jim should have water on by May 15, so we should be all set. We need to get soil ready in the areas that we are to plant.

On June 1, we will look at the new judging sheet to judge the businesses.

Because of the way that the 4th of July falls, we will have our June meeting on the last Monday of June.

Steve Heidt's father passed away last week. Sally will send a sympathy card from us.

T-shirts - A few will be ordered for new members.

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Entrance planter to Rural Hill - we need to think about this. This was handled by the Beautification Commission in the past, and, somehow, we have failed to maintain it in recent years.

Best in Town sign - Donna showed the idea she was proposing. Doug felt we need to make it stand out even more. We will table until next meeting when Diane is back.

The area behind the Main Street Building looks very nice and is getting nicer (the back of Next Chapter, etc.) When we look at businesses for Beautification Awards we need to go around to the back of buildings and consider the whole building.

Doug pointed out that the alley way on Mary Alexander can look bad sometimes, there are several dumpsters here. He isn't sure what we can do to improve this area, but could we look at it, and get suggestions from our commission?

There was a question about who can be a member of our commission. Jim checked it out, and found that we do not have to be City of Northville residents to be a member of the Beautification Commission. We just need to live in a five-mile radius or if we are outside of that, be approved by the Commission and then by City Council.

Photography - Gary isn't sure if he can be at all of the plants, etc. But he will call Diane if he can't be and some of us should bring cameras for photos anyway.

Jim advised that part of the requirements of a City meeting is that we have to post a notice of when our meeting is beforehand. Jim will work with Dianne on this to ensure this is happening.

Donna made a motion to adjourn. Tomiko seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting is June 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Moak