

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ross called meeting to order at 05:32 PM

ATTENDANCE

Commission Attendance

PRESENT: Trustee Berman Ross, Committee Member Nunez, Committee Member Tancredi, Committee Member Tierney, Committee Member Jankowski Jr.

ABSENT: Committee Member Almanzo, Committee Member Mitchell

Other Attendance:

PRESENT: Chris Woodard, Lynne Monroe, Assistant Village Administrator

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

None

MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion to Approve the Beautification Committee Meeting Minutes from December 4, 2024

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 1]
MOVER:	Committee Member Kim Nunez
SECONDER:	Committee Member Chester Jankowski Jr.
AYES:	Jenny Berman Ross, Kim Nunez, Colleen Tancredi, Chris Woodard, Chester Jankowski Jr.
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	Margaret (Peg) Tierney

MUNDELEIN ARTS COMMISSION REPORT

Chris Woodard provided Mundelein Arts Commission updates, noting that they have a meeting next week.

The Arts Commission currently has an opening and seek a representative from the Hispanic Community Council.

Chris shared that, Micah, a mural painter with a master's in landscape architecture, is looking to start a permaculture farm in Mundelein, with a native plant and educational focus.

Discussion took place about potential contacts for Micah to find land opportunities,

including Community Development and Alicia Dodd at the township.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jenny Ross announces the Round Lake Seed Exchange event moved to CLC on March 8, 2025. Peg Tierney confirmed the event details and suggests adding it to the newsletter.

Peg and Jenny recommended attendance and benefits of the event.

PROJECTS

Decorating / Gardening Contests

Colleen Tancredi provided a recap of the decorating and yard contests mentioning the positive community response.

Colleen reported on the distribution of Excellence in Gardening signs and the financial details. The program requires a great deal of effort, and Colleen shared the timing and logistics of the contest, including public works' involvement. The group discussed benefits of exposure on social media and how this program can work in the future.

A discussion ensued about lessons learned, including removing the date so signs can be made in advance and reused and posting photos for chosen homes. It was also discussed that judging the homes is too much to take on and we can continue to offer a sign to all submissions.

Beautification Newsletter

Lynne suggests using the village Facebook page for Beautification Committee posts and asks the committee to consider a weekly-e-newsletter post, rather than the burden of creating content for a full newsletter. Lynne advises against maintaining a separate Facebook page, but instead sharing Village Facebook posts, and creating more content for the weekly e-newsletter to gain exposure via Social Media.

Jenny agrees there are benefits to using the e-newsletter for wider exposure and less content strain. The group agrees to try this approach. Chester agrees to provide a brief article for submission weekly, starting with gardening tips.

Jenny and Colleen mention the need to publicize the gardening award winners and emphasize the importance of continuing content for the newsletter.

Pollinator Garden Plans

Jenny discusses the need for a plan to maintain the pollinator garden at Village Hall,

emphasizing the importance of having a responsible person to maintain the garden throughout the year. Chester suggests a one-time big event in the spring to divide and plant new shrubs. Chester felt once a month is adequate for regular maintenance.

Chester offers to take on the project and develop a maintenance plan. Jenny agreed to reach out to a contact who may be interested in regular oversight.

Spring into Summer

Jenny outlines the need for a detailed project plan for the Spring into Summer event scheduled for May 31, 2025.

Jenny will work with the committee to finalize the list of participants and each person's specific contributions. All will need to help in setting up vendors. All vendors should be secured by end of February.

Colleen will contact Public Works to discuss their involvement, to request marigold donation and potential activities. Lynne will confirm the date of the event with Tighthead.

The group discussed the purpose of the event, considering activities and vendors that appeal to both adults and children with an educational focus.

Chester inquired the limit on vendors, an Jenny indicated it depends on how many tents we have, and the space at Tighthead.

OLD BUSINESS

Village Committee / Commission Email

Lynne and Jenny reiterate the importance of using the village email for official communications. Please contact Lynne or Jennifer Marshall if you are having trouble with access.

2025 Committee Calendar

Jenny invited everyone to review the Committee Calendar on SharePoint. It has activities and events for the committee. The committee needs to decide on events for the year, including participation in farmers market, any of the park district activities, and organizing volunteer events. If anyone is interested they should offer to take it on and get us involved.

2025/2026 Budget

The Budget is in SharePoint for all to review. This gives a general idea of where funds

are to be allocated in the coming year. Colleen has been tracking current expenditures, and Lynne can provide a true accounting based on actual spending. Jenny asked everyone to bring ideas for giveaways at future events to the next meeting. This will help determine what we need to purchase. Lynne explained that it is easier to get an invoice that the Village pays, or send any link to Lynne to make the purchase, rather than ask for reimbursement.

NEW BUSINESS

When asked, Lynne explained that New Business is a good time to bring up topics that can be added to a future agenda, but time would not be spent on too much discussion. Jenny added, this could also be a time to brainstorm topics.

OTHER BUSINESS

Peg Tierney reported that the Tool Library would be having a Chili Cook Off event at Tighthead this weekend.

Kim Nunez commented that a recent Village newsletter spoke of a completion of LED lighting. Kim wondered if that would conflict with a dark skies initiative. Lynne and Jenny both confirmed there is no conflict, and ten LED lights complement such an initiative. Jenny explained the Village lights are downward facing.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Beautification Committee Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM.

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 5, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Committee Member Margaret (Peg) Tierney
SECONDER:	Committee Member Colleen Tancredi
AYES:	Jenny Berman Ross, Kim Nunez, Colleen Tancredi, Margaret (Peg) Tierney, Chester Jankowski Jr.
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Jenny Ross, Chairman

NEXT MEETING - February 19, 2025 at 5:30 PM