

CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Beautification Committee was held on July 17, 2024. Chairperson Ross called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

ATTENDANCE

Chair Ross took the roll call as indicated below:

Committee Attendance

PRESENT: Chair Ross, C. Jankowski Jr., K. Nunez, J. Mitchell, M. Tierney, C. Tancredi, and C. Almanzo.

ABSENT: C. Woodard

Other Attendance

PRESENT: Assistant Village Administrator L. Monroe

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

There was no public commentary.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Approval of the May 15, 2024 Minutes

The May 15, 2024, minutes are still incorrect. Lynne will have to locate the correct file and send it for future approval.

Approval of June 19, 2024 Minutes

Kim Nunez noted her name was absent or the attendance for June. Minutes approved by all with the correction to add Kim to attendance.

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 7, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Trustee Jenny Berman Ross
SECONDER:	Committee Member Chester Jankowski Jr.
AYES:	Jenny Berman Ross, Catherine Almanzo, Kim Nunez, Colleen Tancredi, Margaret (Peg) Tierney, Jill Mitchell, Chester Jankowski Jr.
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

MUNDELEIN ARTS COMMISSION REPORT

No report at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Ross reported that Pam Newton, Village Administrator from Hawthorn Woods, would be a guest speaker for the next meeting. Administrator Newton will discuss her successful volunteer work and other programs she has implemented.

PROJECTS

Review Previous Activities

Recent activities have been successful. Mundelein Days activity went well, but slower during the reptile show. Lynne said Kelsey would be cognizant of that for next year. Chester suggested a sign on the table or a sandwich board. Kim suggested a tall narrow banner/flag. Lynne will get a price. Chester also thought swag would be valuable, and perhaps a Beautification Committee sticker to add to crafts or any give-away.

Seed Exchange-September 28 Farmers' Market 8-Noon

Chair Ross will distribute a signup for this last Farmer's Market event at the next meeting. Chair Ross asked Chester if he could take the lead on this event. Chester agreed. Chair Ross will have Becca from Farmer's Market reach out.

Chester asked about the possibility of a full plant exchange (houseplants, perennials, etc.), not just seeds. Chair Ross said many would have milkweed, but other plants should be considered. Chester said jumping worm is not an issue, and a perennial exchange like hostas would be well received. Chair Ross said Chris Woodard would also have a craft activity for this event. Jill will bring divided plants to start an exchange. Colleen asked to review this again in August and finalize it in September.

The leftover plants not exchanged can be planted at the Fire Station. Chair Ross indicated there are empty areas on the beds, and Chief Lark had been told to perhaps expect members to plant. Jill suggested the committee plant immediately after the Farmers Market that Saturday. Chester felt additional volunteers would be helpful.

Beautification Newsletter

Lynne explained that newsletter content would be required to get a Beautification newsletter off the ground. Peg suggested the mayor's speech regarding Courtland Commons and flooding be a feature article. Chester recommended a template to be used for newsletter layout and recurring stories. Chair Ross hopes the newsletter will drive interest to more events and the committee's projects. Dawn Jenich is no longer

with the Village, so all content should be sent to Lynne. Chester offered to write an article each month.

Clean-Ups

Colleen reported on the first roadway clean-up on the bike path. She noted what a tremendous help Public Works was and gave a recap of the clean-up day. Colleen made a Sharepoint file with all the details for reference to when future events are planned. Jill thanked Colleen for water and gloves and coordinating such a great event. Colleen learned how to set up signage/cones for future events. Lynne will look into a sign that could specifically say Beautification Committee at work. Chair Ross suggested something similar to Spring into Summer table sign. Colleen believes social media would be a good idea for future events to get more volunteers. Chair Ross suggested that as events grow, sponsorship would be a great option. Jill noted parking is an important consideration.

Future Projects

Colleen noted that only she and Chair Ross signed up for weeding of the Village pollinator garden. Chair Ross asked the group to consider events for the future, possibly based on organizational membership, such as DarkSkies, Bird City USA Designation, and Monarch Pledge. Many have specific requirements to be met and costs to join, but can create a foundation for projects and initiatives.

Chair Ross asked everyone to explore their areas of interest and report back. Peg asked if America in Bloom would be considered, and Lynne explained how that program is beneficial with a full report and guidelines to follow. Kim asked how the Mayor promoted a pledge like the Monarch pledge. Chair Ross explained the Mayoral proclamation, but it is the Beautification Committee's responsibility to complete the requirements. Jill commented on the need for the Beautification Committee to have a road map for the year, with specific events and goals, and suggested something each month.

Chair Ross will look at ideas that Grayslake has accomplished.

OLD BUSINESS

Open Meetings Act

Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Colleen is planning for another clean-up day in August. Chester suggested one a month in the summer and using other months for horticultural events (Spring and Fall planting events, for example).

Colleen will e-mail volunteers for the August clean-up, and asked the committee to consider an Adopt-a-Highway. Colleen will also send a thank you to those who helped at the first event. Everyone agreed Saturday was the best day for a clean-up event.

Peg shared a list of plants that were included in the original pollinator garden by Arlene. Arlene recommended the plants, but was not present when they were planted, so she did not provide a map. Peg had tried to match these to the plants in the garden. She asked about the butterfly houses and the sunflowers planted along the Village Hall building wall. Peg also expressed concern about the unprotected edges of the pollinator garden bed and the risk that someone could fall. She inquired about putting up a warning sign, so people would not step in the garden.

Peg shared that the Mundelein Farmer's Market was having a Garden Club Day on Saturday, July 27, and asked if the Beautification Committee had plans to participate. Chairperson Ross explained that Becca had not asked us to participate.

The committee discussed the Butterfly Garden at Courtland Commons. The areas that were seeded with "native" seed mix appear to be mostly grass and probably can be mowed at this point. Kim asked for an update on the sculpture and on the star. I told her I would find out about the sculpture and that the next step for the star is for the Arts Commission to put out a call for artists in late August or September after the planning for Lure of the Local is completed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the Beautification Committee Meeting.

RESULT:	Passed [Yes 7, No 0, Abstained 0]
MOVER:	Committee Member Colleen Tancredi
SECONDER:	Committee Member Catherine Almanzo
AYES:	Jenny Berman Ross, Catherine Almanzo, Kim Nunez, Colleen Tancredi, Margaret (Peg) Tierney, Jill Mitchell, Chester Jankowski Jr.
NAYS:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 PM.

Jenny Ross, Chairman

NEXT MEETING - August 21, 2024