

Northville Township Beautification Commission

April 2, 2019

Attending: Sally Hayes, Dottie Mack, Sue Hillebrand, Lynne Mosteller, Nancy Grandillo, Scott Fursh, Julie Mantay

Absent: Lora Cash, Sharon Smith, Marjorie Banner, Jim Morche', Julianne Mundy

Jim Porterfield (arborist) guest

Called to order 1:05 pm

Agenda approved: Sue motioned, Dottie second, passed

Minutes approved: Sue motioned, Dottie second, passed

Jim Porterfield was introduced as a guest knowledgeable on trees and will serve as a consultant and guide on our trees.

Updates and plan going forward for Bennett Arboretum pathway:

- Northville Township Park and Recreation has neglected to care for this area
- Beautification Commission wants to clean it up then provide for some sort of routine maintenance.
- May 4th from 10 – 1 is proposed clean up date
- Asking volunteers to park in Farmer's Market parking lot
- Wall is divided into 8 sections, volunteers will be assigned a section
- Copies of the sections will be provided

- Julie will collect and contact the volunteers
- Lynne will contact REI and Community Bank for volunteers
- Scott will check with Terri Morecki about "Friends of the Arboretum" volunteer list
- Scott will reach out for help on tree removal and bridge repair
- Sue suggested writing up the event for Township social media – she will do the write up, Lynne will be the contact for more information
- Lynne will check with Home Depo regarding refuse bag donation for the clean up
- Debris
- Township maintenance will be picked up by Township maintenance at the corner of 7 Mile and Sheldon

Budget Update:

- Beautification budget has been cut since flower planting and watering has been contracted out.
- Commission will still order flowers
- As Commission moves forward we may ask for additional funds to help with fall luncheon

Unfinished business:

- There was discussion on bedding plants for the Township hall
- Prelips has been used in the past as the supplier for flowers
- Oguinns has also been used
- Dottie will check on past ordering

- “Non-stop” begonia’s and creeping Jenny were recommended by Dottie
- Scott will check on how to submit an order for flowers and supplies through the Township
- Delivery will be scheduled for May 22 or 23
- Planting will be done after that weather permitting

Other business:

- Nancy discussed a workshop she attended in Sylvania, OH addressing The Oak Openings Region
- This is a unique region and the only one on Earth with this ecosystem
- It was created by receding glaciers and stretches from roughly Bowling Green, OH to parts of Wayne county Michigan
- Before it was developed, the region served as a filtering system to Lake Erie
- The region has mostly been lost to development but there are aggressive efforts to save, preserve and replant where possible
- The Township can help by helping to fight aggressive invasive plants and provide space for wild flower, tree and wild life habitat
- This is a time when small steps to set aside land preserve can make a big difference moving forward
- Public education is key and the Commission has a voice in leading the way