

# BROOKFIELD BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting of November 11, 2008

## ATTENDEES

Nicole Gilhooley	PRESENT	Joan Stewart	PRESENT
Jane Huber	ABSENT	Doug Taylor	PRESENT
Julie Janetopoulos	ABSENT		
Carol McBride	PRESENT		
Brian Oberhauser	PRESENT	A. Kitzer, DPW	PRESENT
Stella Quirk	PRESENT	Cathy Edwards, Trustee Liaison	PRESENT

**GUESTS:** None

The meeting of the Brookfield Beautification Committee was called to order at 7:10 PM by the chair, Joan Stewart. Roll was taken. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as read.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Nicole Gilhooley displayed signage to be used at the Brookfield Library to advertise the Adopt-A-Spot program. The Brookfield website is now up and running, but older information on our committee has been posted. Nicole will re-send current material.
- Trustee Liaison Edwards explained the current status of the two Brookfield train stations. She explained how much effort is being put forth by village staff to persuade BNSF to repair and upgrade the stations.
- Brian Oberhauser complimented the new window that had been installed in the door for the Building Department in the main lobby of Village Hall. He mentioned how it was a huge improvement over the traffic-like warning sign that had previously been screwed into the door.
- Doug Taylor announced his plan to depart the committee at the end of March when his term expires. However he agreed to still take the lead on Project NICE 2009. Doug also expressed thanks to DPW for their help with the recent RBHS Service Day.
- Al Kitzer reviewed several items with committee including:
  1. Adding a chip path along Washington Avenue where there is currently no sidewalk is a possibility, but would be impacted by property and liability issues
  2. Village Manager Rick Ginex has approved the stairwell photo project
  3. Instead of having tree dedication plaques on or nearby the tree in question, a tree-shaped plaque designed for the indoors has been suggested, which is safer and less likely to be damaged by graffiti
  4. Rick has approved the Beautification Committee taking part in the Adopt-A-Highway program for Ogden Avenue
  5. A storm sewer and path have been installed at Congress Park Train Station
  6. Suggested locations for new garbage cans include a Washington/Arden cluster and at both ends of the Congress Park Station tunnel. Also, cigarette urns are to be placed at the Prairie train station.

Al also explained how previous committee chairs were not interested in having a substitute representative from DPW attending committee meetings if Al was unavailable. Also, Al maintains a high level of communication with the committee via e-mail. It was decided that the committee chair will henceforth contact Al Kitzer after the meeting when Al is not present.

## REPORTS:

- Treasurer's Report: Since the last meeting, two new expenditures had been processed. Several new expenditures were presented to Stella at the meeting. Our current balance stands at \$7919.59.

- Several motions and votes followed:
  1. Nicole motioned (Doug second) that up to \$700 be spent on the photos in Village Hall display. The motion passed 6-0-0.
  2. Stella motioned (Doug second) that the committee supports the placing of garbage receptacles at the corner of Washington and Arden. The motion passed 6-0-0.
  3. Stella motioned (Nicole second) that up to \$250 from the remaining funds that had previously been designated for use in purchasing the CEP trees be used to purchase salt-tolerant trees to be placed behind the bench area at the Prairie Avenue train station taxi stand, at the discretion of the village forester. The motion passed 6-0-0.
  4. Doug motioned (Stella second) that, in consultation with Al Kitzer, research be conducted and authority be granted for the purchase of wheelbarrows for beautification use only, spending up to \$1,000.00. The motion passed 6-0-0.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- Committee Plan for 2009: The following projects were discussed, with dates and committee-leaders being designated:
  1. Project NICE – April 25<sup>th</sup> – Doug (Carol will prepare to take over starting 2010)
  2. Plant Swap – June 6<sup>th</sup> – Jane and Stella
  3. Adopt-A-Spot – March 21<sup>st</sup> Kickoff Event – Nicole with assistance from Joan
  4. Adopt-A-Highway – May 2<sup>nd</sup>, June 27<sup>th</sup>, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, October 24<sup>th</sup> - Nicole
  5. Garden Contest – Joan and Stella
  6. RB Service Day – 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in October – Nicole
  7. Governor’s Home Town Award application - Nicole
- New Endeavors: The following possibilities were discussed:
  1. The Conservation Commission is considering a community garden; our committee would like more information
  2. Nicole suggested the addition of public art in the form of mosaics placed in children’s park areas
  3. Carol had issues with the brick pillars at the front of the Village Hall parking lot, would also like to see more trees along the BNSF tracks, and wonders if Johnny B’s sign violates the village ordinance.
  4. Brian suggested that the flag pole at DPW be repainted. Al said that it would be made a maintenance priority.
  5. Stella would like the committee to find a planting site for the year as a group.
  6. Joan favors researching the Village codes and ordinances to see how they can be made to include beautification aspects. It was suggested that Assistant Village Manager Keith Sbiral be invited to attend a meeting.
  7. Cathy asked the committee to consider looking at the island at the Congress Park train station and asked for guidance on what to present at the meetings of the village board.
  8. It was requested to add the committee’s mission statement to the bottom of our agendas.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- The committee decided to cancel the regularly scheduled December meeting. The January meeting will later be considered for cancellation as well.

**GUEST COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS:** None.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Brian S. Oberhauser.