



Minutes
Citizens' Beautification Committee - Regular Session
Thursday, June 18, 2026 - 6:00 PM

The Citizens' Beautification Committee convened in regular session in the Oak Conference Room at the Government Center at 6:00 PM. Chair Lavazza called the meeting to order.

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

PRESENT: Committee Member Gina Lavazza
Committee Vice Chair Daniel Freburg
Committee Member Jennifer Aurora
Committee Member Deborah Johnson
Committee Member Valerie Wyatt

ABSENT: Committee Member Izola Tyus
Committee Member Ronald Van Donk
Committee Member Nephele Delis

Staff Present: Jeff Hindman, Staff Liaison

3. Public Comment

Individuals wishing to provide emailed public comment must email comments to publiccomment@cityblm.org at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. Individuals wishing to speak in-person may register at cityblm.org/register at least 5 minutes before the start of the meeting.

Neither in-person or emailed: No public comment was received.

4. Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are approved with one motion; Items pulled from the Consent Agenda are listed and voted on separately.

- A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the May 21, 2026, Citizens' Beautification Committee Regular Meeting.** (Recommended Motion: The Proposed Minutes be approved.)

Committee Member Aurora made a motion, seconded by Committee Member Wyatt, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Chair Lavazza directed the Secretary to call roll:

Ayes: Aurora; Lavazza; Freburg; Wyatt; Johnson

Motion carried.

5. Regular Agenda

- A. Presentation and Discussion on the Holiday Decoration Event. Sharing ideas, descriptions, framework, and timelines of what the recognition event could entail.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation only.)

Committee Member Wyatt agreed to research award options and provide a sample design and estimated cost for the inclusion in the proposal. Proposed dates for the program were discussed, with nominations opening the week of Thanksgiving and closing on December 16th, the day before the Beautification Committee meeting. The award program will be open to the public and limited to residential nominations of Bloomington residents. During the inaugural year, the Committee anticipates recognizing three to five residences to evaluate participation and determine the future scope and success of the program. Submissions will be shared via email prior to the meeting to expedite the voting and selection process. The Committee also discussed the use of a yard sign and certificate to recognize the award winners. At the July meeting, the committee planned to review and award design, and estimated cost to incorporate into the formal proposal to be submitted to the City Clerk.

- B. Consideration and Action to Approve the Request to Incorporate Holiday Decoration Awards into the Citizens' Beautification Committee's Program.** (Recommended Motion: The proposed request be approved.)

Committee Vice Chair Freburg made a motion, seconded by Committee Member Lavazza, to approve the Item as presented.

Chair Lavazza directed the Secretary to call roll:

Ayes: Aurora; Lavazza; Freburg; Wyatt; Johnson

Motion Carried.

The Committee voted to move forward by submitting a written request to the City Clerk to establish the Holiday Decoration Award as an annual event.

- C. Presentation and Discussion on the Beautification Awards. There are only 3 submissions to date so how does committee promote this to community. Possible press release from Bloomington Parks and Recreation.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation only.)

The Committee reported that four nominations had been received to date. The submission deadline of July 1 was reiterated. Committee Member Freburg inquired about social media coverage for the awards. Committee Members were encouraged to share information about the event through their personal social media platforms. Committee Chair Lavazza agreed to reach out to media contacts to promote the Beautification Awards.

- D. Presentation by the Parks and Recreation Department on Events and Activities happening in the Parks Department.** (Recommended Motion: None; Presentation only.)

Staff Liaison Jeff Hindman reported on the impact of the April 27th tornado and the June 11th storm on the park maintenance staff. These two storms produced 340 work requests for the forestry team. Parks and Recreation also announced the hiring of a third forester to assist with the forestry work load. Preparations continue for the streetscape landscaping project in advance of the July 10 grand opening. Staff also reported a full schedule of summer events,

including the Juneteenth celebrations, Franklin Park concerts, Brews at the Zoo, Fourth of July activities and other community events. Construction of the new Sunnyside Park (focused on water sustainability) is set to begin with completion anticipated to be late next summer.

6. New Business

Committee Members noted that 2027 will mark the 50th anniversary of the Beautification Awards and discussed the opportunity to plan a special celebration or commemorative event to recognize the milestone. The Committee also discussed increasing social media efforts to raise awareness of the Beautification Committee and its activities within the community.

7. Adjournment

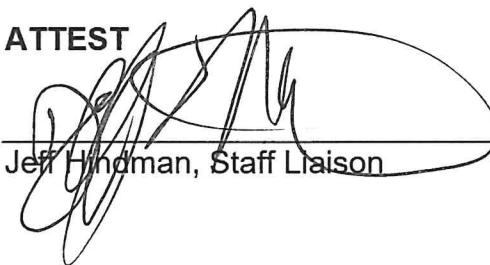
The meeting adjourned at 6:43 PM.

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



Committee Chair

ATTEST



Jeff Hindman, Staff Liaison