



Beautification Committee - REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
GOVERNMENT CENTER, 1ST FLOOR, Oak Room
115 E. WASHINGTON ST., BLOOMINGTON, IL 61701
February 16, 2023, 6:00 P.M.

1. Joni Painter called the meeting to order at 6 pm
2. Roll Call

Members Present: Joni Painter, Chair

Gina Lavazza, Secretary

Jennifer Aurora

Ron Frazier

Deborah Johnson

Robin VanDermay

Sara Kemp

Becky Altic

Bobby Moews, Staff

Daniel Freburg

Members Absent: Chris Kraft

3. **Public Comment- NONE**

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.

4. **Approval of minutes (January, 2022)**- Daniel Freburg moved, Jennifer Aurora seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved

5. **Plan Calendar for the upcoming year**

Arbor Day (Last Friday in April, April 28, 2023)- Committee unanimously decided that Sheridan School will receive the Arbor Day tree/ceremony. Gina Lavazza will be the point person to contact Sheridan's principal about location/program details. Once a location for the tree is chosen, city staff (Bobby or Dave) will make sure the location will work. The mayor will be invited to the ceremony, all beautification members are encouraged to attend.

Beautification Awards need to be started asap. Flyers and posters can go out at the end of April. Gina Lavazza and Ron Frazier will start working on poster to be ready to go out in April. Bobby will have the city Parks and Rec department help distribute flyers/posters. Beautification Committee will ask Kathryn Murphy (communications for the City) to push-out an email to city employees about nominations and ask her to put the flyer on the City Facebook page. Beautification award nomination forms will be available to fill out on the city website. Nominations will be open until the end of May.

Looking at a drive around to visit nominations/vote in June and planning for the awards ceremony in August or September- the earlier the better.

Buck-Mann Park beautification project. The committee can do a “field trip” to the park in May, possible have our May meeting there to look at what we can do to help beautify the park. The Parks and Rec department can provide plants, flowers, wood chips. Bobby will work on getting a plant list that we can order from.

Mural at Empire Junction can be looked at doing during the summer when kids are available to help create. Bobby Moews will mention this possible project to Dave Lamb to make sure it will be to fit in with the Parks and Rec plans for the city.

Plastic bags program brought up by Becky Altic. Trex (company) will provide bins to collect plastic bags, if 500 pounds of bags are collected we can get a free park bench. Becky will look more into the program and see where the nearest retailer is that accepts these donations.

Market Street planters finding a place to put planters along Market Street (near the DMV) may be difficult because it’s all concrete, not much space to place planters.

6. **Parks and Rec update by Bobby Moews** -

- Getting ready for Spring, in the process of ordering trees and plants. About 250/300 trees will be coming in and a semi load of plants.
- Mulching trails at Ewing, cleaning/collecting the honeysuckle (5 truckloads have been cleaned so far)
- Mulching trails
- City purchased a new mower, much more powerful than any the city owns
- 2 volunteer groups from State Farm have contacted the Parks and Rec to help clean up. City usually starts clean-up in March (before Ecology in Action does their clean up in May)

7. **Committee member comments** - No comments

8. **Adjournment** - Sara Kemp motioned to adjourn, Jennifer Aurora seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm.