

## **NORTHVILLE TOWNSHIP BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION MINUTES March 7, 2023**

In attendance: Shannon Coker, Lynne Mosteller, Julie Mantay, Sally Hayes, Kimberly Meisel, Diana Chirillo

- 1) Agenda was approved with no changes.
- 2) Meeting minutes from October 4, 2022 were approved, motion was made by Julie, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kimberly.
- 3) Seedling Giveaway prep – Seedling Giveaway 2023 is planned for Saturday April 22, date to be confirmed once Wayne County Conservation District sends the order form on Friday 3/10. Commissioners agreed to keep the drive thru format, limit the variety of seedlings to 8, budget \$500 from the BC fiscal budget for the seedlings (City budget will likely be \$500 as well), use an environmentally friendly way to identify each seedling type (perhaps color coded cotton yarn), advertise the event on City and Township websites, the City News, post at Township Hall and possibly in The Ville magazine. Guest Diana Chirillo requested that the Tree Champions be present to give information about their group and be on hand to answer questions from residents. Commissioners agreed this would be helpful and we welcome their presence. Lynne will coordinate seedling selection with Diane Pittaway and Sharon Smith.
- 4) Budget update – Shannon confirmed the BC fiscal budget for 2023 is \$3000.
- 5) New business – A) WAM GRANT: Lynne and Sharon worked on and received a grant of \$1250 from the Wildflower Association of MI to be used to replant the living bricks of the Bennett Arboretum Pathway. Funds must be used by the end of 2023 and a report with photos must be submitted to WAM. B) Sally and Julie requested and received another donation in the amount of \$1000 from the Knoth Family memorial donation to the Northville Garden Club to be used for seasonal plantings in the planter urn in front of Township Hall. Commissioners agreed to add a spring display this year so that we have a total of 4 seasonal displays. C) All present welcomed new commissioner Kimberly Meisel, we are happy to have her join us. Kimberly works part time at Northville Schools and will be our contact for requesting help from the Honor Society students. D) 2023 Projects: suggested by the commissioners - Friendship Garden improvements including better watering of the garden (Shannon will discuss with Facilities manager Brandon M), improving the appearance of the back of the building in the area of the waterfall – suggestions were made for pots with annuals, adding perennials to existing areas of soil, sowing annual zinnias by seed. Shannon will request that Brandon join our meeting in April/May to discuss a plan. Another suggestion was to improve the appearance of the ‘Welcome to Northville TWP’ signs on Northville RD and 7 Mile. E) The clerk’s office requested a May meeting change in date from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup>, all agreed to the change. F) Tree Champions representative Diana Chirillo shared information about this new group. She reported the group is a new start up led by Jim Porterfield, mostly City residents so far but all Northville residents are welcome. Their goals include educating the public about trees, having volunteers inventory trees, and coordinating efforts with the Township and City BCs to assist in anything tree related. Diana also shared information about a pathway in Coldwater Springs nature area where she has led clean ups of garlic mustard plants. She is requesting possible help from the BC with replenishing the bare area where the invasive plants were removed. Shannon shared that Parks and Rec will need to be made aware of replanting plans.
- 6) Unfinished business – Julie will attempt to reach Jim Morche’ and share our idea about a brick to celebrate his years on the BC. Marie Barr was a long time commissioner and her daughter has requested a memorial brick, the BC will cover the cost, Lynne shared information with the daughter and is waiting for her order so we can move forward on getting the brick placed in the garden. Commissioners will share ideas next meeting about the spring seasonal display.

**NEXT MEETING APRIL 4, 2023**