

**Beautification Task Force  
Minutes of the Meeting  
June 24, 2009  
Conference Room – Memorial Building**

The meeting of the Beautification Task Force was held on Wednesday, June 24, 2009 in the Conference Room of the Memorial Building and was called to order at 12:05 p.m.

Present: Brian McElwain McElwain, Joe Ryne, Penny Bohnen, Candy Cleveland, Nancy McKeague

Absent: None

Also Present: Director of Public Works George Franco, Village Horticulturalist Dan Hopkins, Village Forester John Finnell,

**Approval of Minutes**

The Beautification Task Force Committee reviewed the minutes from both the April 28<sup>th</sup> and May 27<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mr. McElwain motioned for the approval of the minutes from April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Mr. Ryne seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. McElwain presented the minutes for May 27<sup>th</sup> and asked for any clarifications and comments. Hearing none from the Beautification Task Force, Mr. McElwain motioned for the approval of the minutes from May 27<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ryne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

**Discuss Rotary Clock Progress**

Mr. Franco provided a brief update to the Rotary Clock installation and noted construction is under way. A 7 by 14 foot pad will also be poured next to the clock to make room for a new bike donated by Metra. He was confident the clock would be ready and running for the new availing ceremony at the end of August.

The Beautification Task Force discussed the location of the where the bike rack would be installed. Mr. Ryne expressed his concerns with the location of the bike rack and stated he would like to see the bike rack moved away from the clock to a location that can be screened more properly. Mr. Franco stated these racks were donated from Metra and former Trustee Jean Follett picked the location of the bike racks. The Beautification Task Force continued to discuss if alternatives are available to moving the bike rack to a different location. Suggestions included moving the bike racks east of Garfield Rd. and also on the north side of the passenger loading dock. Mr. Franco stated approval from the Village Manager Dave Cook would be needed in order to move the bike racks to a new location. Mr. Ryne stated he would draft a letter to the Village Manager to seek permission to move the bike racks. The Beautification Task Force discussed the details that would be included in the letter and also the long-term plan regarding bike racks and the landscaping surrounding the train station. Mr. Ryne motioned to hold off on the installation of the bike rack and concrete pads at the Hinsdale Downtown Train Station and conduct a letter to Dave Cook to look at alternative locations for these bike racks. The motion passed unanimously.

The Beautification Task Force discussed the plants that will be planted in the flowerbed where the Rotary Clock will be installed and also general landscaping maintenance concerns in the downtown area. Mr. Franco also provided information regarding Metra's plans to restore the Highlands Station.

### **Discuss Progress of the Community Tribute Tree Program/Hinsdale Nursery Update**

Ms. Cleveland provided information to the Task Force regarding tree preservation and stated she has had several discussions with the owner of Hinsdale Nurseries who would like to get involved with the Task Force's plan of tree sponsoring. She went into detail regarding the type of trees that could be donated such as birthday, tribute, and a number of other opportunities for residents. Mr. Finnell stated he was concerned with forming a sole partnership with Hinsdale Nursery and would like to also keep the current partnership with the Suburban Tree Consortium. He also wanted to keep a set-planting schedule that would assure the best chance of survival for each tree. General discussion took place over the details of this plan and the Task Force noted at this point they were still in the drafting phase of a master plan. They looked at details such as type of trees, providers, planting times, and if the need for sub plans for both the Tribute Tree and Parkway Programs were needed. The Task Force requested to obtain a pricing list for surveys, plaques, trees, and other costs and tasks needed such as the creation of a website showcasing the details and steps of this program as well as the locations available for tree plantings and problems that could arise. The Task Force continued discussing options and agreed to try and keep the plan as simple as possible to assure the best chance of implementation and success. Mr. Finnell expressed his concerns regarding species selection, planting times, and quality of installation to minimize tree maintenance after the tree has been planted.

### **John Finnell Tree Tag Update**

Mr. Finnell provided an update regarding tree tags and stated he has been in contact with the Arboretum and obtaining tree tags should not be a problem.

### **Discuss BTF/Parks & Rec. Relations**

Mr. Ryne updated the Task Force and noted work has been on hold due to short staffing but a replacement has filled the vacant position and discussions should begin again over the next few months.

### **Adjournment**

With no further issues to be brought before the Committee, Mr. McElwain motioned to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Ragona  
Administrative Intern