

**Village of Williamsville – 5565 Main Street
 Minutes of Beautification Committee/Garden Walk 2023 Meeting
 August 8, 2023**



Heritage Garden of 1812, July '23

Members present: Dian Lewin, Myra Lenz, Melissa Warner, Marcia Roth, Edie Malizia, Ramona Schickling, Joanne Miechowski, Marcia Roth, Michelle Pagliaroli, Joyce Haskel, Lori Schonrank, Liveleen Gill, Elise Fila, Sharon Daniels, Deb Habes.

Also present: Trustee Hahn and Village Administrator Susan Canell

Meeting commenced at 1:00 pm

Trustee Jeffery Hahn was welcomed as our new committee liaison to the Village Board. Susan Canell was welcomed as the new Village Administrator.

Garden Walk Williamsville - Dian Lewin, Chair of Garden Walk, reported on GWW'23 which was successfully held on July 15th & 16th this year. Dian gave a very special thanks to the members who worked so diligently since February on this event and for the years that she has been GWW Chair. She re-iterated that as she had announced last year that this GWW would be her last one as GWW chairman, and that Deb Habes, after many years as GWW event chair, had also announced last year that 2023 would also be her last GWW as co-chairman of this event, and that since no one on the Beautification Committee had come forward to take on the future leadership of this event, that it had come time to re-evaluate this committee's relationship to this event.

Deb Habes added that after much thought and deliberation that perhaps it has come time for this committee to end our association with the GWW event and re-focus our very small group's limited energies and abundant talents into the Village's 4 public gardens that we design, plant, and maintain in the village. We have enjoyed presenting this event to the community and have had many fun iterations throughout the years. We have made many wonderful friends from the community, but the time has come for our committee to move on. All good things come to an end. Deb thanked Dian for her talented leadership of this event for the past few years.

A motion was made as to the future relationship of the Beautification Committee with GWW.

ON MOTION by Deb Habes, seconded by Melissa Warner, the following resolution was proposed:

WHEREAS, there is no longer any interest on the part of Village Beautification Committee's members to continue their association with Garden Walk Williamsville after organizing it and presenting it for the past twenty years; therefore

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED to end the relationship of this committee with this event.

On the question: There were no comments from the membership.

Unanimously carried. Motion adopted. 15 – 0.

**Our committee wishes to thank all those committee members over the past twenty years for their dedication, imagination, diligence, enthusiasm, and expertise in presenting to the garden-loving community of WNY the signature event that GWW became. We thank all the residents and businesses who have so kindly and generously participated in this event. It has been an honor.*

BEAUTIFICATION REPORTS - Deb Habes

Garden Priorities Status

- Mural Plaque – Awaiting installation by DPW
- Garden art/trellises/obelisks for Mural Garden – Orders have been submitted to Administrator for processing
- Signage for each garden indicating that “This garden is cared for by Beautification volunteers, etc.” Will research signage.

BEAUTIFICATION REQUESTS FOR DPW – BLACK MULCH ON 1812 and Memory GARDENS AND the following:

(These have been shared with Ben V. of the DPW. Ben V. has responded that he will get to them as time allows)

Pocket Park

- Creation of Trellis Garden – against library brick wall
- Sand and re-paint metal patio tables and chairs. (Our committee does not have the manpower for this needed maintenance task)
- Installation of cast metal mural plaque on brick mural wall
- Sinking into concrete or attachment to brick wall of any iron garden art/trellises/obelisks purchase(s)

Heritage Garden of 1812

- Removal of the perimeter material (cobblestones) and replacement with a non-permeable material OR THICK Layer of mulch on entire perimeter and north point from basin north.
- Fill in the stone basin with planting soil to create a raised bed for planting with perennials

GARDEN REPORTS - Captains' reports; garden needs and deeds

- Heritage Garden of 1812 – Melissa – Looking good. All is flourishing. Plant ID signs have been added. Possible No littering signage? We will take in the slate ID signs for winter. Need to inventory all plants in this and all of our gardens. Melissa could do a spread sheet. She is working on the Garden Gnomes for an appearance in the Fall. Wondered what the new tree status is. Re-iterated the dangers from the traffic for members working at 1812. She has witnessed several accidents at this intersection in the last few months.
- Pocket Park Mural Garden – Deb and Marcia – Two of the new clematis died and must be replaced. Mischler's will allow replacement with no problems. All looks great.

- Memory Garden – Myra and Ramona - Set a date of August 14 for group maintenance of Memory Garden from 10-11am.
- Top o' the Glen Garden – Dian/Elise. Garden was weeded by our members last week.

Plants for Fall: Asters, mums, etc. and Spring bulbs to be purchased and planted in October

Weeding Schedule – Memory Garden - August 14, 10-11am
 Mural Garden – August 18, 7-8pm
 1812 Garden – August 21, 7-8pm
 Further dates to be announced.

Watering Schedule – Dian started a watering schedule to the gardens this year. We began the watering schedule in July after an unusually hot June. The schedule will continue into September. Watering includes Memory, 1812 and Mural with over 20 days that the committee members commit to watering each month. Thank you to all who continue to water the gardens.

Secret Garden Scavenger Hunt, Aug. 5-20 – Joanne reported that all was going smoothly. Popular new event for us. Thanked all the members that have helped with it. Nice Bee article on August 9th. Based on popular demand, it was decided to extend the event thru August 20 with the entry deadline of August 21. We have 12 butterfly puzzles which have been donated by our own members as prizes for the random drawing from entries submitted. Great job, Joanne!

Garden Potluck Lunch for members, by members, is August 22, 11am-2pm, Garrison Gazebo. Sign-up sheet was passed around for food/beverages/supplies. Deb is providing the craft.

Season Calendar of events. Mark your calendars! (This is in addition to weekly garden maintenance)

- *Mural Plaque Unveiling – Date TBD
- *Gathering In Remembrance of Pat Earing – Date TBD
- August 5-20 – Secret Garden Scavenger Hunt
- August 22 – Beautification member Garden Party & Crafting at Garrison Park Gazebo
- October 10 (rain date 11) – Fall bulb planting and garden cleanup. 10am-Noon
- December 12 – Dutch Treat Holiday Lunch @ Eagle House. Noon.

DONATIONS UPDATE: Deb announced that the Clerk's Office informed her that donations to the committee were received recently from WBA (\$250) and Mischler's Florist and Greenhouses (\$250). Acknowledgements and thanks will be sent out by Deb.

Next regular meeting: Sept. 12, at 1:00pm, Conference Room

Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm. Submitted by Deb Habes