



BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2014

If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need.

Marcus Jullius Cicero

Meeting commenced at 6:30 PM

Present: E. Fila, C. Zimmerman, E. Malizia, E. Czyz, D. Habes, M. Roth

Absent: M. Lenz, P. Hinz, S. Duquette, E. Gregg, D. Bronkie, S. Lutsic, B. Piazza, B. Kulpa.

Library Gala Basket: Beautification Committee of donations of items for a garden-themed basket for the Library Fundraiser - Deb Habes made suggestions on items needed and thanked all who have donated to a good cause. The library gala is February 7th at Calvary Episcopal Church to benefit the Williamsville Branch Library.

Holiday in the Village: Luminarias - Overall a success in spite of the cold temps. Thanks to all who participated. Next year need to use different lighters for the luminarias. About 30 were lighted at the Village Hall tree lighting at 6pm and about 100 were lighted along Spring Street, both sides, all the way from Main to just short of the Mill. We have the white paper sacks for future use. DPW delivered a bag of rock salt to both the pocket park and Spring St. Volunteers filled the sacks on the spot. Need more volunteers if we do this again next year.

Garden Overview for 2014

Garden of 1812- Water feature should be up and running; plant markers need update from M. Lenz and how to get the word out on reasons and significance of garden. Suggested doing a story in the Bee. There have been numerous comments, pro and con in Bee Heard Column. Wait to see the color in Spring. Over 1500 bulbs were planted in the fall and it should be a spectacular show in the spring. More perennials that will give color need to be added in. But people must remember that this is a NEW garden and ALL garden plantings need time to mature over time. They will fill in. They will soften the landscape, OVER TIME. The story of the garden must be told. Need to work on the communication of the story. Use Village Facebook page to educate the public.

Library Pocket Park - Status of landscape plan to be determined. Ask Brian.

Island Park . No new plantings anticipated. Will need to assess plants in spring. Routine maintenance. Status of circle garden?

Meeting House

Gardens - The new sidewalks are finished and the configuration of the gardens has changed. The Committee also decided the garden needs more color and a better design. E. Czyz agreed to work on the

design to include perennial and annual flowers, instead of all herbs for more color. A subcommittee was formed to work with E. Czyz. Of note Forest Stream Garden Club has funds to help offset the cost.

Garden Talk to be given by international garden expert Mike Shadrack at Meeting House



Beautification Member Edna Czyz has secured her friend, world renowned garden expert Mike Shadrack to donate his time and give a talk on a popular garden topic at the Meeting House for us in the spring. Tentative date of the evening of **Thursday, April 10th** has been chosen. Deb has the Meeting House reserved. Kudos to Edna Czyz for accomplishing this!! This will be HUGE. Mike is an internationally known best-selling author and garden expert. Go to www.smugcreekgardens.com Tentative plans include inviting Syd Hoffman owner of TeaLeafs to participate by hosting a British style “tea” in the ante-room of the Meeting House with the event. A transplanted Londoner, Mike now lives in Boston, NY with his wife, Kathy. They have 13 wooded acres with 4 gardens filled with water features, thousands of Hostas and other plants and flowers. Mike will give a talk, followed by Q & A. He will bring his books to sell and sign afterward. This will be a good way to get the story out about our Garden Walk. Free will donations will be accepted at the door and all proceeds will go towards beautification of the Meeting House gardens. Social media and area garden clubs will be interested as well as area residents. Should be a great event for the Village. Ideas offered included: Find a British flag and display at Meeting House; make it a British-themed event; include the British tea. Edna will pull together a small committee to work on this event. Anyone else who would like to help brainstorm is welcome to participate.

Garrison Park. Must thin out the Hostas and transplant to other gardens. Perhaps more at the Meeting House.

Village Hall 4 pots and window box - Again use tall grasses in middle and perhaps petunias around.

Glen Park Path. C Zimmerman discussed need for some annuals. It was suggested she submit a budget to Village Hall.

Mill Complex fence. It was recommended to use vines to cover it, such as wisteria, clematis or trumpet vine. Status of construction here this year is up in the air.

Garden Walk – Beautification Committee + WBA

Sat. July 19th. Lots of prep work and organization ahead. If interested sign up with D. Habes. Residents + businesses in the loop. Comprehensive program. “It’s a Village-wide Garden Party!” theme. “Make it Green” by encouraging biking and walking. More to follow. (SEE MORE ON LAST PAGE RE GARDEN WALK 2014)

Williamsville in Bloom - Beautification Committee + WBA. Will need separate Committees to accomplish this. Deb will kick off with WBA in Feb./March. Tie-in Main Street businesses

with Garden Walk. Encourage and reward Main Street business owners to beautify their frontages with hanging baskets, window boxes, patio pots, etc.

Hanging Baskets. Again watering is an issue. We discussed trying to “beautify” the bridge with 6 baskets. Perhaps dragon wing begonias used in other Villages.

Master Gardener Series: E. Malizia reminded all that a series of classes will be presented thru the Town of Amherst by Master Gardeners on Wednesdays from 7- 8:30pm at the Harlem Road Community Center. www.amherstyouthandrec.org.

Minutes submitted by M. Roth

GARDEN WALK 2014

I have started a Garden Walk Williamsville Facebook page.

Even if you do not belong to Facebook, you should be able just to look at the page. Just go to **www.Facebook.com/GardenWalkWilliamsville** and scroll.

If you do belong, please share the page with your friends and families! I hope to make it an interactive page, inviting people to post pics of their gardens, suggestions, etc. Want to get the community involved. You will see pics of yourselves from last year's event on the page!

I will be posting info on our Mike Shadrack event as well and anything “garden”.

Your input is welcomed and much appreciated!

Deb Haber, GW Chair