

GROSSE POINTE PARK BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

September 4, 2024 - 7:00 PM City Hall

LOCATION: Grosse Pointe Park City Hall Courtroom

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Lisa Kyle, Chairman of the Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission, called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.
2. **ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE:**
 - A. **PRESENT:** Alicia Klein, Anne Billiu, Cheryl Gauss, Pat Deck, Armen Gulian, Kelly Konieczki, Barb Miller, City Forester: Brian Colter, City Council Member: Brent Dreaver
 - B. **EXCUSED:** Nicholas Gwozdz, Kim Clextan, Shellie Hansen
 - C. **GUEST:** Jim Creighton

3. APPROVAL OF June 2024 MINUTES not completed due to absence

4. **CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:** A hearty welcome and thanks for all commissioners turning in submissions for awards on time.

5. CORRESPONDENCE/PUBLICITY:

A. Lisa Kyle reported that there was no written correspondence from residents but that many residents are upset with the brush pick up policies that our city has recently implemented. Brent Dreaver mentioned that if a resident has need for a pickup, they can call the DPW to arrange a pickup. Not all residents are aware of this. Councilman Dreaver mentioned that he will relay this information at the next city council meeting.

B. Related to correspondence: Nick continues to work on getting an official streamlined email for commissioners.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fall Plant Exchange: Armen will email the flier and send it out to social media sites. The center is booked, and the staff has the setup information with picnic tables on the driveway.

B. Daffodil Bulb Sale: Bulbs are ordered. Lisa will bag them. There was some discussion on pricing and what would be the best option. They will make a decision when the bulbs come in.

C. Commission Objectives: Commissioner Kyle drafted a list of our objectives as well as a list of all the things that our commission does so that the finance department has a better idea of who we are and what we do for the city. Kyle asked that if there were any additions to be made to the document, that we submit them by Friday, Sept 6, 2024. Lisa plans to schedule a meeting with Ginger to determine what constitutes "public" and will ask that overdue bills be paid from 2023 as well as reimbursement from the Arbor Day 2024 winner.

Submitted by Armen Gulian – Approved

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D. Commission Finance Processes: Budgeting and reimbursement have been a concern with the Commission. We do have an annual budget of roughly \$6400.00. Very little of this budget has been spent this year. There are still invoices from 2023 as well as this year that have not been paid. Both Pat and Lisa have spoken with Ginger to express concerns. The City's aim is to streamline and be responsible with expenditures and funding and has recently implemented protocols from the Michigan Municipal League. Lisa will meet with Ginger to determine what will meet her criteria to have the city fund our future events.

7. FORESTRY REPORT: Brian Coulter, our esteemed City Forrester reported that there are 9 companies that have bid for a contract to handle the City's tree trimming needs. The city will make a determination soon.

8. SUSTAINABILITY: The commission would like to thank Kelly Koniacki for all the work she has put into sustainability projects this year

A. Adopt a Garden: Friends of Patterson Park (Jim Creighton) offered to help with managing or adopting garden beds at Patterson. The group offered to adopt the following areas: Sundial, Flag Bed, Restroom, Splashed and Playscape.

B. Hearty and lengthy conversation regarding the mapping of beds, procurement of supplies, how many beds the Beautification would keep. Specifics of how Adopt a Garden will be organized will take place at a later date.

C. Michiganense Native Plant sales have been successful. We have earned many plants that will augment current beds around city hall. Next Native Plant Sale is scheduled for Sunday, September 8 1-4 at city hall. Kelly has also received Adapt Kits which contain many native plants for our city.

D. Clean- up days have been quite successful. Grosse Pointe Housing Foundation has sent many volunteers from the community to help. Next Event is scheduled for Sept 28. (Weeding and Mulching Party).

9. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. **Beautification Awards:** Please begin work on Award Descriptions. Centennial Award Descriptions should be written by the team responsible for that area. Please have descriptions completed by October 1. Email Alicia Klein or add description to Google Spreadsheet. Discussion followed regarding Civic Awards, Sustainability, Business and the difference between Mayor and Civic awards.

B. **Fox Creek Updates:** The project is nearly complete. Commissioners have received positive comments from the public. The Grosse Pointe Foundation is accepting donations. There will be a ceremony in November on or around Indigenous People's Day. The project still needs benches to be purchased to improve the reflection area.

C. **The BCSEM** meeting on September 19 in Fraser will honor Kelly Koniacki for her work and volunteering efforts.

Submitted by Armen Gulian – Approved

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10. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Jim Creighton helpfully supplied some information regarding Michigan Municipal League expense guidelines, shared some ideas regarding a meadow planting along the west side of Patterson Park and asked questions regarding tree service at the park and funding.

11. ADJOURNMENT: 9:36 pm. Motion by Anne Billiu, seconded by Brent Dreaver. These minutes are submitted by Armen Gulian who is grateful that she is not the Recording Secretary of the Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission.