

## FARMINGTON BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2022

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Sarah Davies (Chair), Natalie Soave, Linda Chiara, Alana Abdal, Michelle Zmich, Pam Wright (Secretary)      **ABSENT:** Sandy Smallish, Lorraine Varns

Chair, Sarah Davies, opened the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Sarah passed out newly ordered and received **Farmington Beautification safety vests** that would be worn whenever we are working on City projects.
2. Discussion ensued on whether or not we would continue sponsoring the **SUNFLOWER EXPLOSION** at an early Farmers Market from seeds planted in early spring by Rick at Springbrook Nursery, as in the past. Unanimous to move forward on this. Linda Chiara will contact Rick to see if he is able to help us with the seedlings this year. Question was raised whether we could just ask for a donation vs. charge people by the plant...Sarah will check into this.
3. Last year a new initiative called **EDIBLE FARMINGTON** was started with packets of seeds given to interested residents who wanted to start a vegetable/herb garden. We discussed the possibility of doing this again, along with having one or two educational sessions on garden-related topics, to be offered at the Farmer's Market during the season. The Committee will continue thinking about topics and/or projects that could be presented for children and/or adults this upcoming Market season.
4. Sarah mentioned that an Award is given by both Mayors (Farmington & FHills) to a participant in the annual **ART ON THE GRAND (June 4 & 5)**, and she wondered if the Beautification Committee might want to go around and collectively decide on a BC winner. Sarah will check with the City Manager's Office and/or Rachel Timlin (FH Cultural Arts) to the feasibility of starting a new award.
5. **PARADE DISCUSSION** on possible participation in the Memorial Day Parade and/or the Founders Festival Parade, if one evolves for this year. Tabled until next month.
6. Sarah mentioned we were still waiting for a discussion with Farmington City Officials on Beautification E-Mail Address, Website/social media notices, and planting schedules for the Islands in town. Tabled until next month.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Sarah mentioned the upcoming **Keep Michigan Beautiful** litter cleanup (tentatively) scheduled for Saturday, April 30. More details forthcoming re where to pick up trash bags, what areas need canvassing for trash, and notice that Farmington DPW has offered to pick up trash bags at curbside in areas KMB covers vs. taking trash bags to a centrally located dumpster.

Michelle prompted some thought and discussion to what our focus as a Beautification Committee should be when deciding projects to take on; outreach in the community, particularly to businesses looking to beautify; and what labor we could provide if needed. Natalie asked for clarification of what projects we are currently committed to as a Committee, to help determine what criteria to use determining future additional projects and even time that should be allocated for the current projects (garden awards, "island" plantings for the season, etc). Discussion by all.

Pam expanded on an idea Sarah mentioned regarding outreach to the community via an insert in the water bill mailing outlining the projects the Beautification Committee is working on and would be sponsoring in the future: i.e. Annual Garden Awards in late summer—some discussion of location of the Award Ceremony---either Warner Mansion porch IF it was repaired and available or the Civic Theatre eliminating weather concerns (rain, heat,etc), BOOtification Awards in October, and Christmas light displays and mapping in December. **Respectfully submitted, Pam Wright (Secretary)**