

**Beautification Commission
Minutes
Monday, January 14, 2019
5:00-6:30 pm
Novi Civic Center**

Call to Order: 5:03 pm

Roll Call: Colleen Crossey, Cindy Haley, Cindy Lang, Ratna Rao, Jennifer Ryan, Celia Todd, Carolyn Upton, Laura Williams, Lindsay Wyskowski

Excused: Ratna Rao

Absent:

Approval of Minutes: Moved Lindsay, Seconded Jen

Approval of Agenda: Moved Lindsay, Seconded Jen

Old Business:

Current Projects: The following projects were discussed:

1. City of Novi Gateway Adopt-a-Sign Project (Cindy L. & Lindsay)
 - Plan to start project in the spring
2. National Wildlife Federation Certification (Laura & Colleen)
 - Cindy L. will contact Roy about a booth at Tollgate Plant Sale
 - Meeting to be held in two weeks with WHO
3. Home/Neighborhood Decorating Recognition (Jen, Ratna & Cindy H.)
 - Cindy L. will send out Facebook page for Dearborn and Wyandot decorating contests
 - Could use monthly educational pieces for themes
 - Quarterly time-frame may be more appropriate for gardening activities
 - Apartment balcony displays or container gardening could be included
 - Lindsay will write up some project plans for social media
4. 2019 Entryway Grants (Carolyn & Celia)
 - Information for applying in 2019 is posted on the cityofnovi.org, Community tab at the top, and click on Homeowners Associations
 - Applications will be accepted January 14 through February 1, 2019
 - Meetings for associations to ask questions or express their concerns were held January 8, at 1, 2, 3 and 4 pm, and January 10, at 8, 9, 10 and 11 am
 - Three possible applicants have come forward at this point
 - Completed application packets may be available for members at February 4 meeting
 - Members will take pictures of locations in preparation for making recommendations
 - Carolyn will prepare a map of applicant locations
 - Recommendations by Commission will be made at March 11 meeting
 - Postcards could be distributed at Palooza to promote next year's grant program
5. Library kiosk available for Beautification Commission display
 - Laura has completed the display with NWF materials
6. Keep Michigan Beautiful Award (Celia)
 - Projects to be considered are NWF Certification, Entryway Grants, Monarch Signs

- Nominations are made in August and awards in October
7. Perennial Exchanges
 - June 1 is not a good date for spring exchange due to Tollgate Plant Sale
 - Tentative date for exchange is Saturday, June 8
 8. Beautification Commission of SE Michigan Luncheon (Ratna, Wendy, Celia & Cindy H.)
 - Hosting June 20, 2018 (58 attended last year)
 - Organizational meeting to be held in February to create agenda
 - Wendy has arranged for Roy Prentice and Rick Meader to speak
 - Carolyn will check with Castles for crafts
 - Need volunteers to set up
 - Plan to use fishbowls with fresh flowers for centerpieces (approximately 8 tables)
 - Members to watch for possible silent auction items

New Business:

1. Beautification Commission website to provide educational information to the community
 - Each member is to provide information about invasives, native plants, animals, pollinators or insects for February meeting
 - Laura has prepared materials about the invasive plant called nightshade
2. Milkweed seeds or seedballs for Palooza
 - Laura will check for seedball recipes
3. Possible Grant Applications
 - Wildflower Association
 - Waste Management
4. Suggestion was made for the Commission to participate in the Adopt-a-Highway Program

Events:

February 11, 2019, 50th Anniversary Reception

April 27, 2019 Detroit Zoo Greenfest

May 17, 2019, Spring Palooza, Civic Center Campus

June 8, 2019 Spring Perennial Exchange

June 20, 2019, SE Michigan Beautification Commission Luncheon

Meetings:

February 4, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, July 15, August 12, September 9, October 14, November 18, December 9

Adjournment: 6:10 pm Moved Lindsay, Seconded Colleen