



BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2010

*"A garden is never so good
as it will be next year."*

Thomas Cooper

Present: Deb Habes, Myra Lenz, Elise Fila, Marcia Roth, Trustee Piazza

Absent: Paul Krieter, Shawn Michel, Dona Bronkie, Trustee Kulpa

Meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m. at Garrison Park Gazebo.

Topics of discussion:

A. Hanging Baskets 2010

1. **Experiment:** - Flower baskets have been at the DPW yard since being removed in August. Ken K. volunteered to do an experiment with the baskets. He has created a control group: one group of baskets being watered only and one group being watered / fed (using water-soluble Miracle-Gro, as recommended by Lockwood's Nursery) daily. He reported that the baskets that were watered AND fed daily were flowering and looking very healthy, basically brought back from the dead. The group that received only H₂O did not thrive. Marcia Roth visited the yard and photographed the thriving baskets for the record. This seems to suggest that the use of Miracle-Gro mixed into the water and used daily would increase the hanging time of the flower baskets on Main St. Ken K. has said he is very willing to work this out for next season. Basil will discuss the watering/feeding schedule and operation with Ken.

2. **Village of Orchard Park** - Deb has secured the contact info for the Village of Orchard Park's beautification group and DPW. The hanging baskets in OP were still hanging into September and looking very healthy. They are watered and fed Miracle-Gro 7 days a week by their DPW. We will follow-up on this to see what can be done in VOW.

B. Fall Plantings at Village Hall

Thanks go to Marcia Roth who planted icicle pansies and purple kale in the 4 pots at Village Hall's front patio and the wooden flower boxes on the brick half wall. These will last into October, when we will pull them for the season. The wooden flower boxes will remain in place on the brick wall over the winter. The 4 plastic pots will be removed by DPW for sheltered storage at DPW. They are not emptied, just the plants pulled out.

C. End of Season Plant Pull – September 18th**

Thanks go to guest volunteers Paula Heinz and her son Cornell Overfield, of 81 Mill Street, who joined us in working in the gardens on Saturday, Sept. 18th, from 9am to Noon.

- Triangle - Members met at the Triangle Garden on Saturday, Sept. 18th and decided that since the plants still looked healthy and the weather was holding, we would leave them and plan a later date to pull them.

- Meeting House – Forest Stream Garden Club will be notified of our request that the flowers be pulled at the Meeting House by October 15th.
- Village Hall – The bushes were trimmed and the petunias pulled. The coleus and sweet potato vines will be pulled at a later date.
- Island Park – Annuals were cutback and gardens cleaned up for winter. Bushes were trimmed.
- Garrison Park – Memory Garden – Myra has volunteered to pull these annuals.
- Notice of a date for the final plant pull for the remaining gardens will be emailed out.

Miscellaneous:

1. Solar Lighting at the Triangle – Committee is interested in pursuing possibility of decorative solar lighting at the Triangle. Basil said that he would speak with a company he knows that does solar lighting. The plan would be to string tiny LED seasonal lights on the tree inside the garden. This would create a focal point in the garden in all seasons of the year. Basil will report back to the committee.

2. Landscape rocks for Triangle – We are still interested in securing 3 landscape boulders for placement at the corners of the Triangle. Deb alerted Ken K. of the DPW who said he would be on the look-out in their daily DPW work schedule for rocks that would be suitable. He will let us know if he finds anything.

- **Final End of Season Plant Pull – Date to be announced by email notice**
- **No regular meeting in October**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Deb Habes