

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

MEETING DATE: Monday, July 18, 2022

MEETING TIME: 6:00 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION: Village Hall



AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

AUDIENCE COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the Beautification Committee Minutes dated January 17, 2022
2. Approval of the Beautification Committee Minutes dated April 18, 2022

NEW BUSINESS

1. Property Recognition Program
2. Police Department Landscaping
3. General Discussion / Project Updates

COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

ADJOURN

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 17, 2022

Call to Order

Mark Carroll called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.

Attendance

Chairman Mark Carroll, Al Broholm, Brian Apgar, Edoardo Tabasso, Mary Ann Hosler, Village Administrator Steve Bosco, Director of Public Works John Laskowski and Administrative Analyst Christine Wagner.

Discussion/New Business

Administrator Bosco welcomed everyone and introductions were made by each committee member. Al Broholm and Administrator Bosco provided a brief history, past projects, and goals of the beautification committee. In more recent years, the committee had consisted mainly of volunteers planting flowers in various planters and locations around the Village. Staff identified the need to update the village code regarding the committee, and formalize many processes for better function. Bosco stated that with the updated code, the committee can serve as an advisory board, providing direction for staff on various projects. Goals identified included staff assistance and advice, implementation of a community recognition program, along with other projects. Potential projects might include, banners, flower pots, silo work, and work in Riverfront Park. A budget of \$15,000 has been specifically allocated for the committee but more funds exist elsewhere in the budget for projects already planned within capital projects, public works or Tax increment Fund (TIF) areas.

Chairman Carroll noted that while the previous committee existed, it has now simply been expanded and formalized.

1. Police Department Landscaping / Route 31 Mural Placement

Administrator Bosco provided background information on the Police Department building and location near Route 31 and Airport Road. Several landscaping elements that died and were removed since the original construction, ten years ago, have not been replaced, leaving empty mulch beds surrounding the building. This creates an opportunity for plantings, which can be explored with a landscaping designer. Bosco informed the committee that the mural depicting Expo Park, which was formerly located on the site of the police station, is presently being stored. Staff would like to put it up somewhere, preferably on or near the police station.

Chairman Carroll inquired if there was enough room on the police station for the mural, Administrator Bosco replied that staff would have to take a closer look at the elevations to determine what options exist, preferably to have the mural visible from route 31.

Al Broholm confirmed that the police station location was previously occupied by Exposition Park with a dance hall across the street. Broholm also noted that any landscaping placed at the police station would need to be planted in a location accessible with means for watering and maintenance. He also suggested flower planters for the site, which may also be in storage from previous years.

2. Village Hall Landscaping

Administrator Bosco presented another potential committee project, village hall landscaping. The landscaping there had similar issues as the police station, with gaps from removed landscaping.

Brian Apgar suggested the two locations be combined into a single project, at least in the phase of landscape design quotes, which can offer savings.

Al Broholm commented that the plantings, whichever are chosen, should not block windows, as they presently do. He suggested a low planter with flowers may be a better alternative.

3. Village Welcome Signs landscaping

Administrator Bosco gave a brief history of the signs, explaining that they were part of an earlier initiative of rebranding, with attempt to separate North Aurora from surrounding communities. Signs had never been fully landscaped, surrounded only with mulch beds. The signs exist primarily in Right-of-Way areas which tend to be more restrictive in landscaping options, but still offer possibility. Plantings here must also be salt and drought tolerant, as well as low maintenance.

4. Flowers for Spring

Administrator Bosco reiterated that plantings had been done in the past by volunteers at Village Hall and in other planters and baskets. He stated that the goal in placing flowers in the state street corridor was to help entice people into coming into the area. Bosco asked the committee for input on types of flowers or colors for the upcoming season.

Al Broholm stated that the Red or purple wave petunias from Schaefer's Greenhouse in Montgomery had yielded the best results of all the flowers the committee had tried over the years. Al recommended getting the flower order in as soon as possible for the upcoming season.

Discussion was had regarding the history of flower planter locations in the community and Administrator Bosco stated that staff would duplicate the order from last year.

Chairman Carroll identified the grassy area near Route 31 as a possible project area for plantings.

Al Broholm suggested a planter be located near Oak St and Randall, as it a highly trafficked area, and is also near the geographic center of the community. All other committee members agreed.

5. Other Discussion Items

Brian Apgar inquired about the vacant lot near Route 31 and Oak St. Administrator Bosco replied that it was kept as a parking lot for various events, with the hope of future development in the corridor in the future.

Al Broholm discussed weed control with Public works Director Laskowski for the Oak Street corridor.

With no further business, Al Broholm made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:54 pm, which was seconded by Edoardo Tabasso.

Motion to Adjourn: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Wagner

BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 18, 2022

Call to Order

Al Broholm called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Attendance

Al Broholm, Edoardo Tabasso, Mary Ann Hosler, Village Administrator Steve Bosco, Director of Public Works John Laskowski and Administrative Analyst Christine Wagner.

Approval of Minutes

Having no quorum, the approval of the minutes dates January 17, 2022 was tabled until the next meeting.

Discussion/New Business

1. Lincoln Memorial Mural Location/Placement

Administrator Bosco provided background information based on the previous meetings' discussion and presented the location options evaluated by staff at the police department property. The options included placing the mural on a blank wall of the police station or constructing a frame in a grassy area near the corner of Airport Road and Route 31. The committee expressed support of hanging the mural on the building wall with the relocation of a sapling in the landscaping that may obscure the view of the mural. Administrator Bosco stated that the item would be back before the committee for action at the next meeting.

2. Property Recognition Program

Administrator Bosco went over a sample outline of how a community operated property recognition program, such as for landscaping with floral display, Halloween décor or a Christmas/Holiday light display. Residents would nominate various properties in town and members of the committee would judge the list of properties and give awards. Al Broholm spoke in support of the idea and stated that the Lions Club and Exchange Club had worked on similar projects in the past in the community. Administrator Bosco stated that it is up to the committee as to what direction they wanted to take; it was very open, but the committee would have to serve as the judges. Al Broholm expressed interest in doing the landscaping display or curb appeal program in summer. Administrator Bosco stated that it may be tough with timing to get a program policy in place before the season ended and that it might be more appropriate to focus on the holiday lights program first. Discussion was had regarding the timing of committee and necessary board approvals that are needed to get the program in place. Administrator Bosco stated that staff would work towards getting the policy established as soon as possible.

3. General Discussion/Project Updates

Director Laskowski informed the committee members that the flower order had been placed in March and that some substitutions may happen if there are supply chain problems with certain flowers. He stated that the landscaping projects at the Police Station and Village Hall discussed previously were awaiting a quote and would be brought to the committee. Laskowski stated that the weed control discussed at the

last meeting on Oak Street had been included on the Village contract for the season for additional spraying and cutting.

Al Broholm inquired about plantings and other features in Riverfront Park. Administrator Bosco stated that the landscaping plans, along with the rest of the improvements, had been put on hold by the Village Board due to the potential removal of the dam.

With no further business, Al Broholm made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 pm, which was seconded by Edoardo Tabasso.

Motion to Adjourn: All in Favor

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Wagner



Memorandum

To: Beautification Committee
Cc: Steve Bosco, Village Administrator
From: Chris Wagner, Administrative Analyst
Date: May 26, 2022
Re: Recognition Program

Staff submits the attached outline of a property recognition program for consideration by the Beautification Committee. The purpose of this program is to recognize residents whose properties display outstanding maintenance, curb appeal and/or holiday decorations. This will be accomplished through the cooperation of the committee and Village staff by receiving nominations from the community during specified periods followed by judging and awards to top rated properties. If approved, the program would kick off with a summer nomination period.

Village of North Aurora

Beautification Committee Property Recognition Program

Purpose

The Beautification Committee's Property Recognition Program seeks to recognize properties which display outstanding maintenance, curb appeal and/or holiday decoration.

Timing of Contests

The Beautification Committee shall determine seasons and timing appropriate for recognition programs. May include but is not limited to: spring/summer landscaping, Halloween displays and winter holiday displays.

Process

- a. Nomination period opens: Community members are asked to nominate their own property or another deserving property.
- b. Nominations must include a property address within the Village of North Aurora for consideration. Only one submission is necessary to be considered for recognition. Submissions may be made in multiple ways as determined by the committee for each program.
- c. Nomination period closes.
- d. Assemblage of nominations: All nominated properties within North Aurora will be tabulated for consideration by the committee.

Judges evaluate each address on a five point scale in several categories designed for each program.

Announcement of Winner(s)

- a. Winners are recognized at a Village Board meeting, and photos of the winning properties are displayed (with permission) on the Village website/social media.
- b. The Beautification Committee will determine appropriate prize(s) for the winner(s).

North Aurora's Property Recognition Program

Summer Program name: Green Thumbs Up, A Cut Above, Putting Down Roots in North Aurora, other?

Eligible Properties: Any residential property with a specified front yard area.

Judges: To be determined and selected by committee

Judging Criteria: Each address will be scored in *three categories* on a scale of 1-5 (5=best)

1. Overall Maintenance

Considers items such as:

- Well-Manicured planting or mulch beds
- Few/No weeds
- Lawn/landscaping/edging neatly groomed (Pruned trees & bushes)

2. Overall Creativity

Considers items such as:

- Use of space/containers
- Variety of plants
- Color choices
- Accent pieces/structural elements
- Overall design

3. Overall Appearance Impact/Aesthetic

Considers items such as:


- Coordination of home/structures with landscaping
- Not cluttered in appearance

Prizes: Award(s) and/or prize(s) shall be provided by the Village of North Aurora for the winner(s)

Summer Program Timeline: To be determined by committee


Summer Scorecard Sample

Address	Overall Maintenance	Overall Creativity	Overall Impact/Aesthetic	Total
123 Sample St	4	3	5	12

A photograph of the North Aurora Police Department building. The building is a two-story structure with a modern design, featuring large glass windows and brick accents. In front of the building is a well-maintained lawn with a flower bed. A sign on the lawn reads "NORTH AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT" and "200". The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. An American flag and another flag are visible on poles to the left of the building.

200
NORTH AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT

NORTH AURORA

A photograph of the North Aurora Police Department building, a modern structure with large windows and brick accents. In the foreground, a large sign on the lawn reads "NORTH AURORA" in stone letters. To the left, a smaller sign reads "NORTH AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT" and "200". An American flag and another flag are visible on poles to the left of the building. The sky is blue with scattered clouds.

NORTH AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT

200

NORTH AURORA