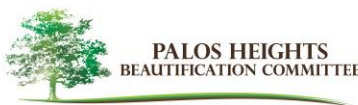


CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS



Beautification Committee Meeting February 24, 2021 MINUTES

Call to Order

Chairman John Hanley called the meeting of the Beautification Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Orchard Room of the Recreation Center. Present were: Alderman Jeff Key, Bob Starzyk, Eileen Lunter, Jan Collopy, Denise Hyker, Lynda Schiappa, Katie Broughton, and Recording Secretary Margaret Carey.

Approval of Minutes

John Hanley motioned to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2020 meeting, seconded by Denise Hyker. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Hanley welcomed everyone back – after the long COVID break.

John spoke with the Mayor about officially renaming the Art Park after Ed Dombrowski.

Committee Reports

Keep Palos Heights Beautiful: Eileen Lunter

Eileen gave an update on the program. The updated flyer will be advertised in the City's upcoming newsletter. If you see a beautiful home or business, please contact Eileen with the address.

Car Classic Event: Bob Starzyk

Bob reported this year's event will take place on July 15. He wants to keep the event simple this year to avoid too many large crowds of people gathering. For example, we are considering canceling the raffle. Margaret will update the flyer with this year's date and post it to the website and include in the newsletter.

Lake Katherine:

No report.

Public Arts Commission: Lynda Schiappa

Linda said she will be a liaison between the Public Arts Commission and Beautification Committee. The Commission is currently looking at maybe 2 new pieces of sculpture for the 2 new landscape beds in town at 76th Avenue and 127th Street.

Business/Economic Advisory: Bob Grossart

Bob was not in attendance, but emailed an update. The update is attached to these minutes.

Adopt-A-Pot: Denise Hyker

Denise distributed the 2021 application. The event will be held on May 15. The AAP Committee will be meeting to discuss details and will promote the program. Hopefully we have enough volunteers for planting day. Margaret Carey updated the flyer and will post to the website. Katie Broughton with the Public Works Department will also be assisting again this year.

Denise asked if we can get business cards for Vince. Margaret will work on that.

Public Comment – none.

Old Business

Denise Hyker asked about the status of our new mission statement. Was it ever voted on? The Committee will consider and vote at the next meeting.

New Business

John Hanley and Bob Starzyk discussed the Moraine Valley Community College scholarship. The Beautification Committee would like to award one \$1,000 scholarship to a student in the Automotive Program each year. The Committee will vote on the issue at the next meeting.

Heather Begley is currently running for Ward 3 Alderman. She also put together the Christmas parade this year. She is interested in joining the Beautification Committee.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is Wednesday, April 28 at 7pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Hanley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Eileen Lunter. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Carey, Recording Secretary

Business/Economic Advisory Update

By: Bob Grossart

Fusion59:

The Beautification Committee approved a Grant Program for local business locations who participated in the Social Media program offered by Fusion59. The grant was for \$600 if you completed the program and are a Chamber member and \$400 if you are not a Chamber member. The first business to complete the program was Royalberry. They started the program in September and completed the program in December. They paid Fusion59 \$675.00 for the program.

Owner's comments:

I am very impressed with the students from Trinity College. Working with them has been a pleasure. The team was consistent in posting on Face Book, Instagram and other social media platforms. It felt like it was on autopilot. I would highly recommend using them for any type of business. They were not a member of the Chamber but decided to join the Chamber to qualify for the \$600 grant. This is exactly the results we were looking for by having a business use the service to help their business and also to join the Chamber.

I received approval from John Hanley on 12/11/20 for authorization to pay the \$600 grant to Royalberry. I delivered the check to Royalberry on 1/8/21. Frank Salman, the owner, wanted me to express his thanks and appreciation for the support to local businesses by the Beautification Committee.

Harvest Room is currently participating in the social media program which runs from January, 2021 to March 31, 2021. They are also anticipating receiving the grant upon completion of the program.

Grant approval-Beautification Committee

The Beautification Committee approved \$6,000 for grants to cover a portion of the cost of businesses in Palos Heights using the services of Fusion59. These grants are available until 12/31/21 or until the funds are utilized. If the program is successful, additional grants could be available. The grant is for:

- The lower of the cost of the project paid by the business or
- \$400 if the business is not a Chamber member
- \$600 if the business is a Chamber member