

GENEVA BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Public Works

March 18, 2008

In Attendance: Dorothy Flanagan, Paul DesCoteaux, Sherri Weitzl, Jim Corfield, Mary Kay Brown, Esther Barclay, Marv Haseman, Linda Haseman, Carolyn Zinke and Roberta Edwards

Dorothy called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

Spaghetti Dinner Wrap Up

250 dinners were served. Ticket sales totaled \$3698. Donations - \$342. Raffles, Tips for Tulips, leftover spaghetti sauce sales - \$342. Expenses - \$649.36. Total so far - \$4,616.64 slightly more than our 2007 total of \$4,497. There still may be donations/bills outstanding.

Dorothy sent thank you letters to Shirley Reams, Edible Arrangements and Joe Stanton who donated items for our raffles.

Possible Improvements For Next Year

- Additional garbage cans needed.
- One more vacuum cleaner needed.
- Two separate crews – set up and clean up
- Recycle more
- Need at least 2 crews to help with parking (need warm up breaks). Also need reflective vests and flashlights.
- More desserts

Things That Worked

- Additional tables set up – no waiting line this year
- Direction sign for food line
- Sold all centerpieces with paper white narcissus
- Dessert area with kitchen pass through allowed one person to refill trays.

A discussion was held about whether there are too many spaghetti dinner fundraisers. It might be possible to have a pork chop dinner instead where people place an order and pick up the dinners to take home to eat. No conclusion was reached.

Spring Planting – Saturday, April 5

Sherri has sent press releases which should be in next week's papers. We would like to get a newspaper to take a photo of our volunteers planting.

Our Committee will unload and load 1,300 pansies on Friday, April 4 between noon and 3 p.m. Four trucks will definitely be needed, possibly 5. Dorothy asked Public Works to clean the trucks and fill them with gas.

Paul suggested that we put a wheelbarrow or donation can in the planting areas or the Geneva Post Office for possible donations on planting day.

Area captains are asked to contact all of their volunteers to make sure they are returning this year and let Dorothy know your findings. Also Dorothy is having signs made for our new volunteers so please let her know of any changes.

Maintenance of Knuckles and Planters

Watering Schedules

Watering schedules were passed out. Dorothy tried to accommodate those who contacted her with the dates that they would not be available. Anyone who has a conflict can switch with someone else if needed. The two planting areas at James and First Street (Rt. 31) and also Sergio's (Rts. 31 and 38) were discussed. Irrigation needs to be hooked up and debris removed. Dorothy talked to the city engineer and will let the adoptees know about this. The two planting areas at Third St. and Rt. 31 (# 40 and 41) have been adopted by Sebort Landscaping. Paul suggested we do something extra for them, possibly a larger sign. Dorothy suggested that they erect their own business sign in each area. Natural Gardens will continue to donate perennials to that area eventually creating a prairie garden.

Mushroom Compost

Dorothy would like all planting areas to get mushroom compost after our April 5 planting but before our May 17 planting. She will call Midwest Groundcover to order it.

New East Side Planting Area

There are safety issues at the CVS corner site. Dorothy will talk to Mary McKittrich about it and let Carolyn Zinke know what she finds out.

GHS Horticultural Class

Marv Sturm expressed interest in working with the Geneva High School Horticultural Class. Many members present expressed doubt at his success due to our own past experience with them and the small amount of time they have to accomplish anything.

Fundraising

Dorothy had certificates made last year to give out to the people who contributed to our committee but she never did. She has decided to mail them to each contributor.

Possible Sale of Christmas Trees, Patches or Gloves

Jim Gehring told us that the Knights of Columbus buy fresh Christmas trees and roping in bulk from a tree farm in Wisconsin. Our group could also order trees at a 10% discount and sell them on the weekends at Public Works. We would need to commit by the end of March. Esther made motion that we order the trees, seconded by Jim Corfield. Motion unanimously rejected. It was felt that there are many places to buy Christmas trees and we don't have the man power it would take to man the site.

Patches – a minimum of 50 patches, 3 ½" x 3" with the Geneva Beautification logo would cost \$3.00 each. Esther made a motion that we purchase the patches and gloves, Paul seconded; 7 nays, 2 ayes.

Sergio's Cantina and Sanfratello's

Both of these Geneva restaurants have offered to give GBC a percentage of their sales plus a reduced price if we pick a day for our fundraising.

Miscellaneous Summer Items

Sentimental Gardens has offered to plant our bridge boxes for free. Our committee will pay for the planting of the bridge baskets. Ball Seed will once again donate summer and fall flowers for our group to plant downtown. Wasco Nursery will also again provide flowers for our planters that we place on east and west State Street, however we will need to plant them. A planting party is planned at Public Works. The Concours d'Elegance took back some of the planters they originally gave us so we don't have as many. Also a few planters were broken. Nature's Gallery on East State Street near the river wants us to replace their tree stump planters with pots and City Hall will need four planters.

Swedish Days Parade

Sunday, June 22 is the parade. According to Paul, "We need to do something dramatic!"

Blooming Fest

Dorothy heard about a gardening fest put on by the city of West Chicago and wondered if we could do something similar. It would be a working festival for gardeners with landscapers, master gardeners, etc. We could sell space to exhibit, have a plant sale, etc. Carolyn suggested we make over a commercial or residential property (ugly duckling makeover). "Gorilla Gardeners" would also be fun; these volunteers plant gardens at night and in the morning everyone is surprised by the unexpected appearance of beautiful flowers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Roberta Edwards