Geneva Beautification Committee

Geneva Public Works 1800 South Street, Geneva

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Meeting Minutes

Present: Dorothy Flanagan, Sherri Weitl, Tom Bloore, Mary Kay Brown, Jim Corfield, Maureen Dixon, Roberta Edwards, Mary Gehring, Scott Ryan.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Chairman Dorothy Flanagan

- 1. Introductions of New Members As no new members were in attendance, the committee members introduced themselves to the group.
- 2. Spring Planting Saturday, April 5
 - a. Planting Schedule Tom Bloore indicated that the schedule for the Spring Planting will be held as usual with the plants arriving at Public Works around 3:00 pm on Friday, April 4. He will call any members who will be able to assist in unloading the delivery truck and sorting the plants onto the City trucks used to deliver plants to the gardens. Please let him know if you will be able to help 630-802-4177 or tbloore@sbcglobal.net. Blue and yellow pansies will be delivered. Not all gardens receive pansies; the listing for plant delivery will be forwarded to the Area Captains prior to planting day. The planting schedule for 2014 is as follows:

Spring Planting – April 5 Summer Planting – May 17 Fall Planting – August 30 Winter Cleanout – November 1

- b. Composting Compost will not be available this year. Jim and Sherri Weitl will fill bags of controlled-release fertilizer that will be delivered to the gardens on planting day.
- c. Planting Instructions If gardeners want to add compost to their gardens, they are encouraged to purchase and apply on their own. Scheduling and delivering compost by the committee is difficult so gardeners will be encouraged in the planting instructions to do it on their own.
- d. Waste Bags The committee has sufficient supply of bags thanks to the generous donation of bags by Lowes Home Improvement which was arranged by Chris Goulet.
- e. Planter Update As Rick Sturm was not in attendance, there was no update. Dorothy Flanagan will contact Rick.
- f. Area Captains to Contact Current Adoptees Area Captains have contacted their Garden Captains and most have agreed to continue caring for their gardens. Area Captains are asked to verify all garden adoptions and the signage wording and submit their results to Dorothy Flanagan by March 15.

g. Gillingham's Way – The Eastside Gardeners are asking for information on when the trees in the area will be removed. Sherri Weitl will contact the Public Works and request notification when the trees are to be removed and forward the information to Maureen Dixon and Tom Bloore.

3. Fundraising and Status of Finances

- a. Donations Received To date, \$5,300 has been received through general donations, response to a business letter, and response to a volunteer email.
- b. Firewood To date, \$1,354 has been received through bundle and face cord sales with thanks to Grandpas at Play! As a number of firewood bundles at City Hall were taken without paying for them, the bundle sales was discontinued around the first of the year. The committee will explore placing the wood rack at the Fire Station Headquarters or asking Ace Hardware to sell the bundles and give us a percentage of the cost. Face cord sales will continue. Other income is:

\$130 - Cookbook Sales

\$253 – T-shirt Sales

\$603.23 – Garden Sponsorship

City of Geneva will donate \$5000 for FY 2014-15!

Expenses to date are:

\$8,736 – Summer 2013 plant order, signage, Post Office plants, brochure printing, Fall 2013 plant order.

As the City of Geneva fiscal year runs May 1 through April 30, so does the Geneva Beautification finances. That is why the fiscal year (as opposed to calendar year) finance expenses show summer and fall 2013 plantings and the spring 2014 planting.

c. Discuss 'Vote for Your Favorite Garden' fundraiser – The Geneva Beautification website (www.PlantGeneva.org) is no longer operational due to the fact that the website will now be hosted by the City of Geneva website and the City's Communications Coordinator will likely not post our website until late spring or summer. As such, it was decided to postpone the fundraiser since 'voting' was to be handled by PayPal on the website. Further discussion to follow.

4. New Business

- a. Swedish Days Volunteers are encouraged to check with groups to which they belong and check if they would be agreeable to partnering with Geneva Beautification in relation to Swedish Days booths. Geneva Beautification cannot afford to purchase a booth space on our own so we are looking to see if we can get publicity through partnering with an existing booth. Also, anyone interested in working on a committee for a Swedish Days Parade Unit, please contact Dorothy Flanagan or Sherri Weitl with information or questions.
- b. Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 29 at 6:30 pm at Public Works Training Room, 1800 South Street, Geneva.

Respectfully Submitted, Sherri Weitl