

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BROWNSTOWN  
BEAUTIFICATION/HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Tuesday, July 20, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Charter Township of Brownstown Beautification Commission was held at the Brownstown Recreation Center, 21311 Telegraph Road, Brownstown, Michigan on Tuesday, July 20, 2010. Chairperson Pfau called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Members Pfau, Sheldon, Walters, Machcinski and DeLeon and Recreation Director Maxe

**EXCUSED:** Szymanski

**MINUTE APPROVAL:** Motion by DeLeon, supported by Sheldon, to approve the Beautification/Historical Commission Minutes of June 15, 2010 with the correction that the Entry Sign at West and Telegraph would be installed in the “near future” not “next week” as written. All present voting aye.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Motion by Sheldon, supported by DeLeon, to approve the agenda of July 20, 2010. All voting aye.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT**

The Historical Society did not meet in July due to vacations and the Fourth of July Holiday.

All of the gardeners have been invited to the next Open House, on August 1, 2010.

The Display Case at Township Hall was decorated with a 4<sup>th</sup> of July theme for the month of July. Voting memorabilia is being sought for the August display.

**2010 GARDEN PROJECT**

Dick Smith, Project Coordinator for the Historical Society gave the following report:

The bat house has been erected in the Southeast corner of the property. The bees have also arrived.

Tim Jones is doing well with the pumpkin patch. One pumpkin gained 17 pounds in 24 hours.

Some of the cucumbers have not done well and the tomatoes seem to be small but are now beginning to ripen.

Several of the gardeners have questioned whether they will be able to have the same location next year, so that they can determine how much time and money they want to invest in their plot.

The Recreation Department received a load of compost from the City of Taylor that many of the gardeners have used and there has been discussion about upgrading the site with compost before the next season.

One of the gardeners is a Master Gardener. He has offered to teach a canning class. Hopefully the next Open House will give an indication of what interest there might be.

**ENTRY SIGNS**

Maxe announced that the Brownstown Fire Fighters Union responded to the request in the News Herald for help with the signs. They will care for the sign at Dix and Sibley.

The signs at Gibraltar Road and in the South end look much better. The members of the Beautification/Historical Commission and Historical Society would like to commit to maintaining those signs until other volunteers are found. Members discussed transplanting some of the existing plants to thin out the Gibraltar sign and add something to the Huron River sign. The Sibley sign may also need some plants moved.

Sheldon will prepare a follow-up press release to recognize the Firefighters and request again for additional volunteers.

### **CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT**

Members discussed the status of the project and asked questions about the existing plan, including the proposed placement of the Event Barn and the future of the Garden.

Maxe explained that it is still in the early stages and many decisions hinge on the approvals required by the Department of Natural Resource and Environment. This approval process can take up to six months or more. He also explained that while there may not have been a Public Hearing for the project, many residents have had input. The Recreation Commission has been involved and many parents who use the playground, soccer parents and softball players were given opportunity to express their opinions.

Many of the ideas have resulted in the current proposal having more green space and more (smaller) parking lots.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

Sheldon read the letter she prepared to inform the We Care recipients of previous years that there will not be an Awards Ceremony this year. Members discussed the letter and suggested minor changes. Maxe will have the letter sent out and report how many were sent.

### **PUBLIC FORUM:**

Richard Smith, 24781 Pamela, again suggested that the Commissioners get more involved in the planning of the Campus Development and if possible, attend any public hearings that may be scheduled.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by DeLeon, supported by Sheldon, to adjourn the Beautification/Historical Commission meeting at 8:25 p.m.

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