

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF BROWNSTOWN
BEAUTIFICATION / HISTORICAL COMMISSION
DECEMBER 20, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Charter Township of Brownstown Beautification / Historical Commission was held at the Brownstown Township Hall, 21313 Telegraph Road, on Tuesday, December 20, 2011. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Pfau at 7:07 p.m.

PRESENT: Pfau, Golovich, Machinski, Sheldon, Szymanski, Walters, and Whitecotton. Also in attendance was Recreation Director Maxe

ABSENT AND EXCUSED: None

MINUTE APPROVAL: Motion of Sheldon, supported by Whitecotton, to approve the Beautification / Historical Commission minutes of November 15, 2011 as submitted. All voting aye.

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion of Golovich, supported by Walters, to approve the Beautification / Historical Commission agenda of December 20, 2011 as submitted. All voting aye.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY REPORT: Machinski reported that there was no Historical Society meeting held in December due to the holiday. Members are waiting to hear about their application for a \$145,000 Ford Foundation grant that was submitted in December by Regina Hunter as part of her master's degree program from U of M. It should be close to the end of April before any notice is received. Richard Smith informed the members that this Grant will cover three projects: repair work on the basement of the Historical Museum; completion of the Lee Road scenic turnout project, and the continuation of the erection of the Luther-Woods cabin in Lake Erie Metro Park. Smith also reported that the Rumsey Cemetery scout project is back on the schedule.

GARDEN PROJECT: Being the winter season, Whitecotton had nothing to report at this time.

CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT PLANS

DDA INFORMATION MEETING 1/4/12 AT 5:00 P.M.: A joint meeting with the DDA will be held at 5:30 p.m. on January 4, 2012 regarding the Township Campus Plan. Members of this Commission, the Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission have been invited.

Maxe reported that he is still moving into the new Recreation storage building and expects to be done around the first of the year. Demolition of the old building is expected next spring.

2012 PROJECTS: Pfau inquired if our day was secure for the Farmers Market this year. Maxe explained that it needs to be decided if we want to stay with WCMA or run the event ourselves. This can certainly be discussed with the DDA at the joint meeting in January. Starting the market in mid-June will be a better time.

OTHER BUSINESS: Maxe received the wording revision for the Corduroy Road Historical Marker and will e-mail to members for review. Members are to let Maxe know by Monday if they approve.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Two new projects were discussed. "Picture This", where residents will send in photos of their gardens to be placed on the Township website. Announcement of the project will need to be in June with pictures submitted in July. Also, a Garden Walk will be held where attendees will start at the Recreation Department to pick up a schedule and route list of participating gardens. First item will be to identify the gardens to be visited. Sheldon requested lots of advance publicity beginning in March or April to give people time to plan their gardens for participation in the event. It was also suggested that next winter residents could submit photos of their winter holiday lights, like the "Picture This" event, and a holiday lighting contest could be held again if there is enough participation.

Pfau introduced Robbie Oaks from Boy Scout Troop #1795. Last fall he weeded and cleared the center section and West Jefferson Township signs and was attending the meeting as a requirement for his merit badge. He announced his plans to add more plants in the spring. Pfau thanked him for all his help. The Firefighters have the Sibley Road sign looking nice with holiday lights.

Pfau provided the schedule of the BCSEM quarterly meetings. March will be held in Grosse Pointe Park, June in Grosse Pointe Shores, September is in Auburn Hills, and December at Dearborn Heights. As usual, they were asking for special stories or events to be submitted for the BCSEM newsletter.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion of Machinski, supported by Sheldon, to adjourn the Beautification / Historical Commission meeting at 7:51 p.m. All present voting aye.

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