

**Beautification Commission Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 9, 2023**  
**6:00 pm**  
**Novi Civic Center**  
**45175 10 Mile Rd.**  
**Mayor's Conference Room**

**Call to Order:** 6:10 pm

**Roll Call:** Jan Lach, Cindy Lang, Christen Pietraz, Laura Williams, Torry Yu

**Present:** Jan Lach, Christen Pietraz, Laura Williams, Torry Yu

**Absent Excused:** Cindy Lang

**Approval of Minutes – June 14, 2023:** Moved: Williams, Seconded: Yu, Approved 4:0

**Approval of Agenda:** Moved: Yu, Seconded: Pietraz, Approved 4:0

**Old Business:**

- Reinvigoration of the Adopt-A-Park-Sign Program
  - The Commission worked on finalizing the details for the updated Adopt-A-Park-Sign Program. They plan to have all remaining paperwork revised by early October and to begin advertising the new program in the Winter/Holiday 2023 Engage Magazine and other avenues.
- Fuerst Park Monarch Waystation
  - The Commission was pleased with the work accomplished during their service project on the garden in July and would like to work on having another event in mid to late September, ideally as a community volunteer event. They also discussed potential improvements to the gardens such as the addition of early pollinator plants and making a clearer delineation between the small, planted native garden and the larger free seeded prairie/pollinator area.

**New Business:**

- Discussion of New Projects/Programming Options
  - City of Novi Beautification Awards  
The Commission is interested in this idea but are concerned about the breadth of work it would potentially require. They will continue to discuss it or, a smaller iteration at future meetings.
  - Seasonal Events (Autumnal or Halloween decor/Holiday Lights, etc.)
  - Educational Programs (Native Plants, Foraging, etc.)
  - Bee City USA  
The Commission is very interested in pursuing bee/pollinator programming. They intend to look more into the Bee City USA requirements at a future meeting as a potential project. They also would very much like to engage with other interested parties in the City to do general pollinator education like encouraging “No Mow May” and discouraging the use of chemical pesticides. potential beehive installations.

- “Plant of the Month”

Commissioner Williams suggested introducing a plant feature for native plants residents could identify or plant themselves, potentially on the cityofnovi.org, social media, or one of our other publications.

**Public Comment:** none

**Adjournment:** 7:25 pm

**Upcoming Meetings:** 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13