



City of Hamtramck

3401 Evaline Street Hamtramck, Michigan 48212

Telephone 313-800-5233

Beautification Commission May 5th, 2022; 6:00PM

1. Call to order

- Peter called to order at 6:16

2. Roll call (2 Minutes)

- Peter Buhr, Rumana Rahman, Alatheia Reese, Glafira Gordeon, Sean Coté present; Julie Salius absent

3. Public Comment (two minutes limited to Beautification Commission issues)

- Maria Jarrous-Polowniak a representative from AMENA public interest law firm. Focused especially on people from Middle Eastern and South Asian countries. Helping with voting registration is a priority, but literacy is a foundation and want to contribute to a community like Hamtramck - kids need access to books. They are connected with Book Stock to stock Little free lending libraries as primary tool. Perhaps talking with student groups to help.
- Max suggested harm-reduction tools such as NARCAN and such.
- Rumana asked generally what they need is; Max responded with people get excited to start them but they are not always kept up
- An opportunity to restore them
- Commission can assess where they are and where they can be
- Maria suggested kid groups who can get credit for college apps and such
- Max suggested HATCH is an integral partner; Sean Bieri has built quite a few
- Maria suggested including non-English books
- Rumana will send email to HATCH, Max, and Maria to initiate a connection
- Peter motion to close public comment at 6:38, Rumana second, all in favor

4. Approval of Minutes (2 Minutes)

Minutes of April 7th meeting

- Peter motion to approve minutes, Rumana second, all in favor

SECTION I: AGENDA ITEMS – For Discussion/Action/Information

1. Recruitment Subcommittee Update - Rumana Ruhman & Julie Salius

- *Rumana emailed mayor, mayor responded said he will ask around and let us know*
- *She also connected with the president of a Yemeni PAC for help, and a Yemeni person in Dearborn*

2. Trash/Waste Management Coordination

- *Max reported that the citywide clean sweep is the 14th at 11am*
- *Asking for volunteers to check in - Rumana will sign up for that*
- *Max has fliers to distribute*
- *Peter asked generally about grants for trashcans*
- *Rumana will lead effort to figure out what our trash problem is - is it liter, or what?*
- *Max developed trash scoring system*
- *Glafira mentioned a school-based program; Max will have a summer program, and Rumana mentioned LEAP is already onboard*

3. Rainwater Garden Subcommittee Update - Peter Buhr & Rumana Ruhman

- *Peter will work with Karolynn to prep research for grants*
- *Need to choose a location to get started*
- *Options for garden*
- *Pulaski park - open field; rectangular pavilion for rainwater catchment*
- *Veteran's park - will be a good option*
- *Then rooftop second*
- *Library is separated from the city and will be run independently*
- *Glafira suggested checking an elevation map for low spots in the city for easy rainwater catchment*
- *Peter mentioned the design of it can achieve a low spot with berms and bioswales, using a roof to divert rain water will help as well*
- *Sean mentioned Sarah Garrett Park with a pavilion and berm*
- *Glafira mentioned plants in the design that would having blooming throughout the year*
- *Peter asked Glafira for a list of plants that are suitable for rain gardens*
- *Glafira joined subcommittee*

- *Peter recommended starting process to hopefully complete in the fall, and Glafira said bulk of planting can happen in the spring*
- 4. Seed/Seedling Swap**
- *Glafira mentioned a stand equivalent to a Free Little Library but for plants*

 - *Single day event on May 21st*
 - *Location needed*
 - *A few commissioners have tables*
 - *Rumana has concerns about parking, Pope Park is metered on Saturdays*
 - *Zussman Park doesn't have parking issue, somewhat central*

 - *Peter will create a facebook event*
 - *Sean will create promotional graphics*

 - *Sean will get login for instagram*
- 5. GM Support**
- *Tabled to next month*
- 6. Dog Park - Julie Salius has ideas**
- *Tabled to next month*
- 7. Jos. Campau Planter Boxes - Lynn Blasey**
- *Tabled to next month*
- 8. Little Libraries**
- *Discussed in public comment*

SECTION II: OTHER ITEMS

1. General Reports

ADJOURNMENT

- **Peter motions to adjourn; Sean seconds - All in favor**
- **Meeting adjourns at 7:24**

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