



BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

JULY 28, 2025 AT 5:00 PM

PUBLIC WORKS
148 W ILLINOIS AVE
PALATINE, IL 60067-5339
(847) 359-9050 www.palatine.il.us

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

5:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

PRESENT :	Beautification Commissioner Randy Spiess, Beautification Commissioner Bob Herbst, Beautification Commission Chair Patricia Fluhler, Beautification Commissioner Sue Albro, Beautification Commissioner Nancy Robinson
ABSENT :	

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Beautification Commission - Regular Meeting - May 27, 2025

RESULT:	MOTION APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE
MOVER:	Randy Spiess
SECONDER:	Nancy Robinson
AYES:	Randy Spiess, Bob Herbst, Patricia Fluhler, Sue Albro, Nancy Robinson
NAYES:	None

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Farmers' Market Recap

Staff reported a successful turnout at the Palatine Farmers' Market. Commissioners handed out information about the Beautification Commission and Village services to patrons of the market. George Ruppert, the Village Engineer, joined the Commissioners in greeting patrons and answered any questions regarding Village water and stormwater. Staff thanked the Commissioners who were able to attend.

B. Train Station Interior Plants

Staff reported that the 6 new corn plants and planters have been installed at the train station. This is a great enhancement to the train station interior. Staff shared before and after pictures.

C. Scarecrows on Parade

Participants can begin picking up scarecrow frames on Monday, August 11th at Public Works, 148 W. Illinois Avenue. There are 20 frames available to participants. Scarecrow installation will take place on Saturday, September 20th, between 10:30am and 11:30am with judging to begin at approximately 11am. All participants will be invited to the Rotary Club's Oktoberfest main stage where the winners will be announced at approximately 12:30pm.

Scarecrows on Parade will be advertised in the weekly Palatine E-News, the Fall Newsletter, through the Village's social media channels, and Staff will invite past participants.

D. Borders Drive Cul-de-Sac 50/50 Landscaping Program Update

Staff reported the Borders Drive Cul-de-Sac 50/50 Landscaping project is complete. Staff reviewed the plan and shared pictures of the installed landscaping. Commissioners inquired about more 50/50 Landscaping Program projects. Staff reported there are no current applications and noted that applications are accepted each year until funds are exhausted.

E. Snowflake Corridor Enhancements Update

At the November 2024 Beautification Commission meeting, Staff discussed quality and durability concerns with the existing stock of snowflakes. Since then, Staff has researched different options and sought input from neighboring municipalities who have similarly lighted displays. Staff presented 3 snowflake options: Presidential, Prairie Crystal and Spiral. Commissioners found consensus on integrating the Presidential and Prairie Crystal styles into the existing Winterfest snowflake style. Currently, the Village has sixteen 6' and ten 4' snowflakes. Approximately 43 6' and 19 4' snowflakes will be purchased in the 2026 budget year.

Commissioners expressed a desire to phase out the wreaths, replacing them with the new snowflakes. Wreaths will be phased out in winter 2026-2027.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fall Decorating Event

Staff advised possible dates for Fall Decorating as Saturdays, September 6th or 13th. Commissioners found consensus on hosting Fall Decorating on Saturday, September 6th.

Staff will invite high school volunteers from Palatine and Fremd High Schools.

B. 2025 Hometown Pride Awards Judging

Staff reported 40 total entries for the 2025 Hometown Pride Awards, including 26 Single Family, 1 Multi Family, 3 Subdivision Entrance/Cul-de-Sac, 6 Business, and 4 Doors of Palatine. Commissioners viewed and judged the 2025 Hometown Pride Award nominees. Winners will be recognized at an upcoming Village Council

Meeting. Commissioners are invited to the recognition and will be notified of the meeting date selected.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

VII. ADJOURNMENT