



**BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION  
SEPTEMBER 22, 2025 AT 5:00 PM**

PUBLIC WORKS  
148 W ILLINOIS AVE  
PALATINE, IL 60067-6816  
(847) 705-5200 [www.palatine.il.us](http://www.palatine.il.us)

**MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**5:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ROLL CALL**

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

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. July 28, 2025 Meeting Minutes

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>MOTION APPROVED BY VOICE VOTE</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Nancy Robinson
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Bob Herbst
<b>AYES:</b>	Randy Spiess, Bob Herbst, Patricia Fluhler, Sue Albro, Nancy Robinson
<b>NAYS:</b>	None

**IV. OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Hometown Pride Awards Recap

Staff reported there were 40 Hometown Pride Award entries voted on at the July 28, 2025 meeting and thanked those who could attend the Village Council meeting on August 18th to present awards to the winners. Staff presented the slide show of the winners.

Commissioner Spiess suggested adding a category in 2026 for pollinators/native plantings.

- B. Fall Decorating Event Recap

The fall decorating event was a huge success on Saturday, September 6th with 29 volunteers from Fremd and Palatine High Schools and the Service Over Self club.

Staff thanked the Commissioners who could attend the event. Staff suggested using heavy duty zip ties in lieu of rope to make it easier to tighten sagging corn stalks through the season. Commissioners suggested switching the poles decorated at the intersection of Plum Grove and Palatine Roads to the skinnier light poles.

C. Scarecrows on Parade Winners

Staff reported the 18th Annual Scarecrows on Parade event was a huge success with 18 entries. Staff thanked the Commissioners and guests who judged the entries and presented a slide show of the participants and winners. Commissioners suggested adjusting the scarecrow drop off time earlier next due to some participants arriving late.

D. Capital Improvement Plan Update

Staff presented the parking sign concept that is part of the Downtown Capital Improvement Plan and sought feedback from the Commission. Commissioners liked the color coded lots and identifying parking lots by name rather than letter. They liked the sign color scheme and style. They appreciated the use of the unifying Village font and font style.

While including a blue circle with a "P" as a locally recognized symbol indicating parking, Commissioners thought the color of the circle should reflect the color coding of the corresponding parking lot so visitors know the type of lot before entering. Commissioners also would like to see split-face stone at the bottom of the parking signs, another unifying feature recognized throughout the Village. They would like to reserve recommendations for plantings around the parking lot signs until after the signs are installed, but agree that signs should be installed leaving planting space.

## V. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2026 Meeting Calendar

Staff presented the 2026 Proposed Meeting Calendar. Commissioners suggested the March meeting be held on March 30th. Commissioners found consensus to adopt the 2026 meeting calendar with the March meeting change. All meetings will be held at Public Works, 148 W. Illinois Avenue.

B. 2026 Spring/Summer Planting Theme

Commissioners discussed the theme for the 2026 Spring/Summer Planting plan. Commissioners would like to replace the red whopper begonia with pink whopper begonia throughout the Village and keep the yellow, white and purple color theme throughout.

Commissioners noted the train station plantings are lush and beautiful, but would like to see more blooms added to the planters and incorporate sweet potato vine where there was none for the draping foliage.

At the Gateway and Volunteer plaza, Commissioners would like to see the ground level bed colors incorporated into the urns.

Commissioners would like to maintain the continuity of variety and color through the

downtown corridor planting beds. Staff confirmed the Bothwell Street beds have irrigation and will be improved in 2026.

Commissioners noted they would like the Brockway and Wilson Street planting beds adjacent to the improved parking lot be incorporated into the planting bed plans for the downtown corridor. Staff confirmed there is irrigation in the Village ROW planting beds.

Forestry will present the preliminary 2026 Spring/Summer Planting plans at the November 24th Beautification Commission meeting.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**