

# Hiram Community Beautification Commission

Meeting Minutes

Rosser Municipal Building

11617 Garfield Road, Hiram OH 44234

**April 18, 2019**

**Beautification Members Present:** Dan Brokos, Chair  
Debra Blake, Hiram Township Representative  
James McGee, Village Administrator  
Michael Greenwood, Village Council Representative  
Ed Frato-Sweeney, College Representative  
Lou Bertrand, Mayor  
Chris Szell, Village Representative

**Absent:** Denny Taylor, Hiram Public Gardens

**Official Recorder:** Wendelin Taylor, Assistant Fiscal Officer

**Others Present:** Village residents: Robert Faber and Ellen Eckhouse

**General:** Dan Brokos called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. The Board reviewed the meeting minutes of January 19, 2019. Dan Brokos stated that Ed Frato-Sweeney is listed as absent when in fact he was in attendance. Dan Brokos made a motion to accept the minutes with the correction. Debra Blake seconded. Motion passed.

**Guest and Public Comment:** Ellen Eckhouse expressed concern over the removal of trees in the village. She is also concerned that the arborist used by the Village also worked for the tree removal company. James McGee explained that the arborist did the tree survey conducted the evaluation before TNT Tree Service was contracted to remove hazardous trees. James also stated the last survey was done in the 1990's.

Michael Greenwood mentioned an email received from Denny Taylor regarding a "Tree Academy" sponsored by the Ohio Independent Arborist Association. Mr. Greenwood will forward that information. The information will also be sent to Garrettsville and Mantua Village and area Townships.

Mr. Faber mentioned a problem with cars that appear to be abandoned. These cars have expired tags and are an eye sore. Mayor Bertrand suggested Mr. Faber call the Police Department nonemergency line and report the cars. Mr. Faber asked if the fence in front of Denny Taylor's house can be replaced. James McGee stated that fencing and the retaining wall on Mr. Taylor's property is on a list of future projects. Currently James is that list of projects with ODOT and AMATS.

## **Old Business:**

A. Signage – James has not had time to pursue the project. Debra Blake mentioned she has

had several people approach her with ideas and names of manufactures.

- B. Cemetery – Tree maintenance has been put on hold. James is investigating different species that can replace trees that have been removed or have died. Debra Blake will call Portage County Soil and Water to see if they have any maple trees available for sale. Michael Greenwood suggested planting a variety of species.

**New Business:**

- A. A special meeting to discuss the Tree Academy was scheduled for May 30, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

The next meeting is set for July 18, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Approved:

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Wendelin Taylor, Assistant Fiscal Officer

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Dan Brokos, Chairperson