

Macalester-Groveland Community Council
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, July 19, 2010 – 7:00 PM

Edgcumbe Rec Center

Committee Members in Attendance: Mary Davis, Nick Eftikides, Sharon Toscano, Cindy Syme, Connie Karlen, Lauren Anderson (staff)

Guests: Jim Toscano, Lou Michaels

Approval of June Minutes: Motion was made, seconded, and passed.

Alley Garden Awards Recap:

The 2010 Totals are:

- 42 nominations came in during the June 28th – July 1st nomination period.
- 445 addresses were awarded.
- 18 requests from residents to recheck gardens came in.
- 82 (and counting) response postcards have been sent in.

The committee discussed the amount of time taken to judge each grid, which ranged from 3 to 6+ hours. Next year's promotional information will say that "judges will pass through any time between ____ and ____" in the hope that neighbors have gardens ready by the time judging starts. Additional ideas to shorten the judging period to Thursday through Sunday, instruct judges not to go back several times, and aim for a judging period in late June in order to have judging wrapped up by July 1st were brought up by committee members. Lauren will also make sure that there are a few days between the nomination period and the start of judging to allow time for data entry.

Flags often did not stay taped or stuck to one another – higher quality tape, a quick refresher prior to assembling the flags, and possibly a different flag shape would help the flags from coming apart so easily. The committee also reviewed a new "almost" award, which would allow judges to check which criteria aren't met at a particular garden instead of writing a note. For 2011, the committee would like to get more information, including the picture guide for judging criteria, out to area businesses in addition to promoting the awards in the Villager, E-Illuminator, and on the MGCC website.

Alley Garden Award Banquet

We have not yet heard back from a potential speaker Cindy contacted, and are unable to set a date for the celebration. Connie, Cindy, and possibly Sharon & Mary can help set up for the banquet. Sharon & Mary can help with take down. Cindy, Mary, Sharon, and Connie can bring treats. There may be leftover prizes from last year's event. The committee would like to continue having a joint celebration with the Native Garden Award recipients.

Fall Plant Share

Two spring hosts, Ruth Krishman and Anne Scheller, are unable to host again for this fall. Committee members who have contacted other potential hosts should contact Lauren once they hear back.

Other Business

The committee would like to hold an August meeting as planned. Mary will take the Alley Garden Award Tour Map to the Groveland Recreation Center – Lauren will have maps available for the Edgumbe Recreation Center, the MGCC office, and on the MGCC website.

Next meeting: Monday, August 16, 2010 at 7:00pm at the Edgumbe Recreation Center.