

**Macalester-Groveland Community Council  
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Monday, June 21, 2010 – 7:00 PM

Edgcumbe Rec Center

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Sharon Toscano, Mary Davis, Nick Eftikides, Cindy Syme, Liz Kane, Lauren Anderson (staff).

Guests: Jim Toscano, Lou Michaels

**Spring Plant Share**

The Beautification Committee raised \$410. It was a very successful event with many plants exchanged. It worked well to bring leftover plants to the Highland District Council. The Committee would like to see a handout similar to Highland's in future (small, bright – approx 6 per 8.5" x 11"). Committee also discussed issues with weeds that are brought to the Plant Share. Sharon brought Native Garden Interest Group flyers with pictures of 20 native plants to each spring host site – volunteers are encouraged to refer to these flyers to help residents determine what type of plant they're bringing, whether it's a native or commonly considered a "weed."

**Fall Plant Share**

The date for the Fall Plant Share is set for Sat 9/25 and the Committee would like to see three sites in the morning and three in the afternoon. Linda Snouffer and Wendi Ward are confirmed as hosts. Lauren will create a small handout and possibly encourage hosts to have snacks, which was really popular this spring. Sharon will contact Ruth Krishman and Anne Scheller. Nick will contact Greg (who couldn't participate this spring). Mary will contact Christine Leonetti. Lou brought up idea of having a Plant Share at the Wilder Park apartments – he would like Sharon to contact Jean, who is a staff member there. Lou could host a morning site for the fall.

**Alley Garden Awards**

The first judges' training (held just before this meeting) was very successful and the second is scheduled for tomorrow at 11am. The walk through was particularly helpful. Nearly all judges are able to attend one of the trainings (or have scheduled an alternate time with Lauren). Lauren created a new nomination form for residents to nominate their own or a neighbor's garden. The Committee discussed the following edits: removing the statement, "please check all that apply," above the selection criteria, using a larger font through the lower part of the form, and stating "The Alley Garden Awards is a program..."

The tour is tentatively set for Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. Lauren will check in with Craig about creating the map prior to the tour dates and modify dates if needed. Lauren will also submit information to the E-Illuminator, the Villager, and post on the MGCC website.

The Awards banquet is tentatively set for Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Cindy will follow up with Scott from Tangletown Gardens, who may be available as a speaker. If Scott is not available, Lauren will contact staff from the City of Saint Paul or a horticultural book store owner in the West 7<sup>th</sup> area. Once the date is secured, Lauren will contact Macalester College to secure the 2009 space in the Weyerhaeuser building.

**Next meeting: Monday, July 19, 2010 at 7:00pm at the Edgumbe Recreation Center.**