

AMBERLEY BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

MEETING DATE: June 22, 2009

7:30-9:10 PM; Amberley Village Community Room

PRESENT: Jeanette McCarthy; Pam Hessler; Cynthia Goodman; Jim Kelly; Shayne Byer; Melissa Lauer; Ed Hattenbach; Fran Cohen; Merrie Stillpass; Bernie Boraten; Steve Rasfeld; Gary Meisner

DISCUSSION:

1. Welcome

2. Nature Play Environments for French Park— Gary Meisner shared PowerPoint with concepts for this quality of play that is being designed to counter “nature deficit disorder” for Arlett Center at UC and at the Cincinnati Nature Center.

- Upgraded play areas are shown on French Park master plan
- Supportive conversations with Cincinnati Parks staff have occurred
- No funding at this time
- Gary is looking for involvement from Amberley residents, especially to have play workshop with kids.
- Melissa and Shayne will help Gary organize group
- No costs to Amberley
- Part of Landscape Architects project
- see www.naturegrounds.org for examples
- recommended reading: Last Child in the Woods by Robin Moore, LA (NC)

3. AVBC Awards— Jim reported that 10 nominations were received.

- Pam reported the awards need to be ordered by 7/12.
- Pam & Jim will coordinate letters, contacting nominees for photographing yards/gardens and notifying the judges

4. Elm Tree Memorial

- Plaque rock selection – Scott, Jeanette, Merrie went to McCrackins and Evans in Loveland to look at rocks
- Evans had better pricing based on “guesstimate” Will follow up with actual quote
- Steve indicated Maintenance Dept. out frequently in vicinity of Roundbottom location & can maybe pick-up
- Next Steps: get boulder & mount plaque

5. Residential tree program 2009 –

- Ed had preliminary conversation with a nursery that might be interested.
- Merrie found out that ReLeaf may not be available to AV this year
- If interested check at Ice cream social and on website

6. Ice Cream Social August 23 – AVBC activities

- AVBC Beautification Award announcements—will need to make poster of winners (Patrick?)
- rain garden/rain barrel information—use extra copies of signs (Steve R.)
- other info/initiatives: display plans?
- recycling?
- volunteers needed to help set up & help during event

7. Jimmy F. New Foundation Grant

- Jeannette contacted Michael Adams (JFNew) for plant recommendations. He indicated larger plants will be available in July.
- Next Step: follow up to place order for plants & schedule planting when plants arrive

8. Other:

- Jeanette will review AVBC tree manual to see if it needs updating.
- work on updating tree inventory
- New website is up and running: <http://www.amberleyvillage.org/> Click Government and Administration tab on left to locate Beautification Committee section. Please review & comment on entries!

9. NEXT MEETING: Next meeting: July 27, 2009; **7:30 p.m.** AV Community Room, Lower Level, Village Hall

- *Anyone interested welcome—no experience necessary*