

Superior Township Beautification Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, August 6, 2026

Start Time: 10 am EDT

Location: Superior Township Hall, 3040 N Prospect Rd, Superior Township, MI 48198

Call to Order

Chair Sarah Devereaux called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM.

Roll Call

Committee Members Present:

- Sarah Devereaux
- Patty Bradley
- Michelle McIntyre

Other Participants Present:

- Steve Kraft, Deputy Supervisor
- Katherine Campion, resident

Approval of the Agenda

Michelle McIntyre moved to approve the agenda. Patty Bradley seconded the motion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Reports

- **BoT July Report (Steve):** Most blight ordinance violations have been resolved. Two have gone to second notice. A contractor was sent out on one. All cases have been assigned and are in the process of being resolved. There have been 41 new cases since July.
- **Ordinance Violations (Steve):** Zoning violations are more unique and take longer to resolve. Examples are broken-down cars and piles of tires in the yard. Eight properties were targeted and inspected. We have received good feedback from neighbors. People are thanking us for getting an ordinance violation letter. We are creating an ordinance to

have broken-down cars towed from the streets in collaboration with the Washtenaw County Sheriff's office and hope to get the ordinance in front of the Board of Trustees in September.

- **KPI Report:** This has not been created yet. Chair Sarah Devereaux will work on a format to discuss with the group in the committee's September meeting.

Old Business

- **Email Alias:** We will be able to use beautification@superior-twp.org after all, and we will all be able to access it.
- **Projects & Goals:** Before our next meeting, **each member will create a list of our priorities on 1-2 projects, as well as how we will measure success on each one.**

New Business

- **New Member Application Review** Kim Polzin is an amazing former hospice nurse who is being interviewed by Lisa Lewis as Dana Greene is her friend and neighbor. Her application will go in front of the Board of Trustees for approval in August, pending Treasurer Lewis' feedback.
- **Social Listening Tools (Patty):** A report was submitted to and reviewed by the committee. The least expensive tool is \$20/month. We concluded that using a tool such as this could be useful in the future for the whole Board, not just for our committee. For now, **Patty will do weekly searches and forward any posts to the group.** We also need to come up with a process to post our meetings and positive outcomes to SM channels.
- **Committee Member Updates** (round robin):
 - **Sarah**
 - Zoning violations: Process is going well, focus is on ensuring we're enforcing equally and accurately
 - Senior citizen resources: Sarah is noticing that a large percentage of residents who are struggling to maintain their homes are senior citizens. She is investigating how we might be able to connect them to services.
 - Wildflower meadow ordinance: Some overgrown yards that are claimed as wildflower meadows are filled with invasive species and out of control. Sarah is working on an ordinance to ensure we are encouraging "intentional and well-maintained" wildflower meadows and other native plantings.
 - **Michelle:**
 - **Community Partners/Volunteers:** A meeting is scheduled with Trinity Health's Director of Community Health and Wellbeing during the week of August 10. A meeting with

Hyundai remains to be scheduled. Both meetings aim to strengthen partnerships, learn how each organization coordinates and communicates volunteer efforts, and identify opportunities to align their interests with ours.

- Would be great to establish methods for residents to get rid of hard to get rid of items like tires. Michelle to look into what this would look like through the CPCS Mini-Sponsorship program.
- **Grants:** Four native planting grant options have been identified, with award amounts ranging from \$500 to \$1,500. Each grantor has distinct eligibility criteria, application requirements, and deadlines, and all require a clearly defined project plan. Michelle has begun developing a comparison spreadsheet to evaluate grants against potential projects and will share it with the full committee.
- Sarah forwarded information about the **Community Partners for Clean Streams (CPCS) Mini-Grant**, which Michelle will add to the spreadsheet for consideration. The CPCS email also suggested exploring the Waste Knot Grant, designed to reduce municipal waste — potentially offering residents options for disposing of hard-to-recycle items such as tires, e-waste, and motor oil.
- Most grant applications are due before the end of 2026 for 2027 awards and projects.
 - **Patty:**
 - The **United Way volunteer portal** project was delayed until our contact - Tiffany - was available. Patty will meet with her later today and get started on the portal.
 - Patty contacted **Susan Bryan, Rain Garden Coordinator for the Washtenaw County Water Resources Office**. She will be happy to meet with us and brainstorm ideas for using native plants and rain gardens to beautify public spaces. Patty will invite her to our September meeting.
 - **BoT August Report Content:** Sarah summarized our first meeting and our areas of focus. Publication of collaborative Compliance Plan and Standard Operating Procedures. Talked about blight issues on Clark and Ascot.

Pleas & Petitions

- The NE corner of Harris and Geddes has a common dumping spot for hazardous material. We want to work with the owner on dumping prevention. Steve indicated that the property owner may be SMLC. Michelle said there may be a conservation easement managed by SMLC. Ownership of the larger farm, adjoining properties, and the responsible party for each needs to be identified. Michelle agreed to put Steve in touch with the SMLC board and/or Executive Director for assistance. Trail cams for dumping sites may be a viable option for reducing dumping.

Public Comment

- Katherine Campion: Mighty Networks is another social media channel that we might want to post on. Katherine also praised the committee for their thoughtfulness and expressed her excitement for the work the committee was doing. She also invited anyone interested to come and see her property, which she has plans to open to the public in the future.

Adjournment

Michelle McIntyre moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:40. Patty Bradley seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned.