

GLEN COVE BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 27, 2026

Call to Order	Chair Lora Cusumano opened the meeting at 5:15 p.m. in the City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room and invited Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck to address the Commission before regular business.
Attendance:	Commissioners: Lora Cusumano, Robert LaBaw, Barbara Peebles, Coleen Spinello, Eve Lupenko, Gigi Ferante. Staff: Mike Yeosock, Manny Grella, Liz Mestres. Also Present: Mayor Pamela Panzenbeck; City Council Beautification Liaison Mike Ktistakis; Youth Liaison Jacki Yonick; Student Advisory Member Alexandra Ramsaran. Volunteers: Joanne Yee, Patty Pilla, Patrick Logan, Teri Moschetta, Diane Beecher.
Mayor's Opening Remarks	Commission/City coordination. Mayor Panzenbeck praised the Commissioners' enthusiasm and work, while asking that Commission concerns, requests and project proposals be communicated through the appropriate City channels and coordinated with the Mayor's Office and DPW. Pratt Park. The Mayor stated that Pratt Park is not interested in the possibility of adding parking spaces. She also reiterated that new park benches should include center dividers. Office space / dog-waste bags. The Mayor advised that City office space is limited and said neighborhood HOA areas requesting additional dog-waste bag dispensers should generally assume responsibility for those supplies. Cigarette Litter Recycling Program. The Mayor expressed support for the program, while emphasizing that receptacle locations should be selected carefully, especially in smoke-free areas, and that a long-term plan is needed for emptying and maintaining any units placed on public property. DPW relationship. The Mayor stated that Beautification will remain under DPW and noted current DPW staffing shortages, asking for patience and continued teamwork.
Approve Minutes	The June 25, 2026 meeting minutes were reviewed. Motion: Coleen Spinello moved to approve the June 25, 2026 minutes. Vote: Approved by those present.
Financials	Financials covering May 23, 2026 through August 5, 2026 were reviewed. The Treasurer was not present; Chair Lora

	Cusumano reported that she had reviewed the financials and asked the Board for approval. Motion: Barbara Peebles moved to approve the financials for 5/23/26–8/5/26. Vote: Approved by those present.
Project Updates	Demmler – Head of the Creek Memorial: Manny reported that the concrete pedestal is in place and the anchor is waiting for a piece of steel that was expected with materials for the bridge project. The anchor is intended to be bolted to the concrete base so it can be removed if future bulkhead work requires access. The Commission discussed completing the anchor installation first and addressing the remaining seating/landscape design afterward. The City’s larger bulkhead project remains longer-term and dependent on financing/approvals -approx. 2 years of time. Pratt Park Gazebo – Benches: Barbara reported that the new benches had been delivered to the DPW yard. Volunteers will assemble them, with DPW coordinating delivery to Pratt Park on the day of assembly. The group estimated assembly could take roughly one to two hours. Barbara will finalize the bench plaques, with a goal of having the benches ready for the September 11 ceremony. Relocation or disposition of the older benches remains to be determined. Boulder & Bronze Plaque: The group discussed the difficulty and expense of mounting the bronze plaque on the originally selected boulder. An alternate rock was identified that may provide a better surface. Staff/volunteers will review the alternate rock and mounting method after the relevant staff member returns, including whether bolts and adhesive can be used safely. Cornell Cooperative Extension Daffodil Planting: Barbara reviewed the proposed machine-assisted planting of approximately 5,000 daffodil bulbs around the perimeter of Pratt Park. Labor for the specialized planting equipment is being donated. The Mayor indicated support for moving forward, subject to a site walk to confirm safe planting areas. The Cornell contact will coordinate with Lora, Barbara and Manny to walk the site. The exact planting date remains to be scheduled.
Grants	1) PSEG Long Island Community Thrive Grant: The two new Pratt Park signs must be installed before the grant photo opportunity can be scheduled. Staff reported the signs are at the sign shop since June 9th, mark out is complete and estimated installation in approximately one to two weeks, after completion of other sign work. Lora will target the PSEG Long Island photo shoot for after September 11 and remain in

	contact with PSEG. Remaining grant closeout items include the Pratt Park trash pail and sign installation. 2) 2026 Cigarette Litter Prevention & Recycling Program (CLPR) Grant: Lora presented the rollout of the Keep America Beautiful / TerraCycle program and showed the free outreach materials, including portable ashtrays and prepaid cigarette-recycling mail-back bags. She explained that cigarette filters contain plastic and that TerraCycle separates and recycles the collected material. Receptacles: The program has 18 pole/wall-mounted TerraCycle cigarette receptacles and 5 larger stand-alone units. Custom recycling/Beautification decals are pending. Public/private partnerships: The receptacles may be placed at approved City locations or adopted by participating private businesses. A private-partnership agreement is being finalized; participating businesses would agree to empty the units and recycle the cigarette waste. Businesses with existing receptacles will be invited to use TerraCycle mail-back bags. Volunteers are needed to execute this part of project. Location discussion: Potential locations discussed included known cigarette-litter hot spots in the downtown/Police Station area, Garvies Point/Harbor Landing, the brewery area, the boat ramp and train-station vicinity. MTA did not approve placement on its property, so City/private-property alternatives may be explored. The Mayor reiterated that units should not be placed where they would appear to encourage smoking in smoke-free areas. Maintenance/volunteers: A key issue is who will monitor and empty public units. Lora requested volunteers for business outreach, monitoring, education, the September 19 cleanup and Street Fair. The Commission also discussed the time saving benefit of emptying a cigarette receptacle rather than having DPW pick up individual cigarette butts from the ground. Vape recycling: Lora reported that a TerraCycle vape-recycling pail has also been purchased after a meeting with Dr. Sharon Harris of SAFE. Tonight's meeting covered the lithium-battery/fire risk of discarded vapes and the higher cost of recycling them. Monroe County was identified as an example of a New York program working on vape recycling. Future meeting with American Lung Association, Lora and Dr. Harris will be scheduled mid-September. Education: The group discussed the grant's education requirement and expressed differing views about presenting cigarette-recycling information to younger students. The Commission will seek guidance from appropriate school/substance-use professionals, including Dr. Sharon

	Harris and Commissioner Cheryl Carmody, before choosing the audience and educational approach.
Upcoming Events	International Coastal Cleanup – Pryibil Beach, Sept. 19, 9am –12pm: Lora reported that Glen Cove Hospital had posted the event and expected to send volunteers. She will follow up again with the Scuba Network. Cigarette butts will be collected separately for recycling as part of the CLPR grant. Additional volunteers are needed for setup, collection tallies and cigarette separation. Sept. 19th Coordination Plan for GC Street Fair: The Glen Cove Street Fair is the same day, and Beautification has approval for a booth there, creating the need for volunteers at both Pryibil & Street Fair locations. E-Waste, HELPSY textile collection, and the opening day of soccer are also scheduled that day. Members discussed collaborating with the Coalition to Save Hempstead Harbor/Morgan Park cleanup and, if possible, sharing volunteers and cigarette-recycling information between locations. Tulip Planting: October 10th was selected as the primary planting date, with October 17 identified as the rain date. Mayor’s Fall Cleanup: The Commission noted that a fall cleanup won at fundraiser by the Mayor still needs to be scheduled. No date was selected during the meeting. Planting of Mums: No discussion at meeting. December Holiday Décor / Chip-A-Tree: No new action was recorded on holiday décor. Chip-A-Tree remains scheduled for January 9, 2027. Crescent Beach Mural: The agenda status remains on hold until Spring 2027; no new action was recorded.
New Business	Mercadante Beach / Harbor Landing Cleanup: Lora will speak with Debra from Harbor Landing about a joint cleanup. Discussion noted that the beach itself was relatively clean but reeds/shoreline areas could use attention, and kayaks/boats could be helpful for access. Ferry Terminal / Boat Ramp: The Ferry Terminal was suggested as another cleanup area. The boat-ramp area was also noted as a cigarette-litter hot spot and may be considered in the CLPR location review. Train Station / MTA: Lora reported continuing communication with MTA regarding the train-station area. MTA did not approve cigarette receptacles on its property. The group discussed determining where MTA property ends and whether a City-owned or otherwise approved nearby location could be used instead.

Ideas for Future	The agenda listed a Route 107 train-trestle mural or other mural locations, storm-drain emblems, a House & Garden Tour or plant sale fundraiser, and a guest-speaker luncheon fundraiser. No formal action was taken on these items before adjournment.
Adjourn	Chair concluded the meeting at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Commission Meetings *fourth Thursday of the month, 5:15pm start time, at City Hall, unless otherwise noted.

1/22, 2/26, 3/26, 4/23, 5/28, 6/25, 8/27, 9/24, 10/22, 11/19, 12/17(Holiday Party), 1/9/27 Chip-A-Tree