GLEN COVE BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 24, 2026

Call to Order	Chair Lora Cusumano began the meeting at approximately 5:15 p.m. in the City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room. A quorum was not present at the start of the meeting, the Commission proceeded with project updates and deferred voting items until additional commissioners arrived.
Attendance:	**Commissioners:** Lora Cusumano, Cheryl Carmody, Coleen Spinello, Gigi Ferante, Barbara Peebles, Eve Lupenko **Staff:** Mike Yeosock & Liz Mestres **Also Present:** City Council Beautification Liaison Mike Ktistakis, Youth Liaison Jacki Yonick **Volunteers:** Joanne Yee, Matt Garcia, Patty Pilla
Approve Minutes	After a quorum was present later in the meeting the August 27, 2026 Beautification Commission Meeting Minutes were reviewed. **Motion:** Cheryl Carmody moved to approve the August 27th, 2026 minutes. Second by Barbara Peebles. Motion passed by all present commissioners.
Financials	Financials covering August 6 through September 8, 2026 were reviewed. During the review, Liz Mestres presented a revised City Beautification budget balance, changing the amount reflected on the Treasurer's report from **$6,107.37 to $2,908.76**. The Treasurer was not present to review or verify the adjustment. Chair Lora and the Commissioners present expressed concern about approving the revised financials without supporting documentation and review by the Treasurer. **The Commission agreed to defer approval of the financials until the Treasurer could review the adjustment and the appropriate documentation could be provided to the Commission.**
Project Updates	**Demmler - Head of the Creek Memorial:** Mike/staff were asked whether there was an update on the anchor/steel installation. No updates to report. **Ferry Terminal / Harbor Landing - September 2:** Lora reported that the joint cleanup and weeding with Harbor Landing residents and other volunteers went well. Harbor Landing management/residents expressed interest in continuing beautification work with the Commission and discussed the possibility of donating toward an additional bench at Pratt Park, subject to City approval. **International Coastal Cleanup - Pryibil Beach:** The cleanup had a strong volunteer turnout. Scuba Network divers came intending to dive under the pier and assist with underwater debris, but wind, choppy water and poor visibility prevented the dive. The divers stayed and helped clean the beach. A return dive is planned for October 4 at 11am. One diver also reported noticing missing boards on the pier and spoke with Manny so DPW is aware. **Pryibil Beach totals / CLRP integration:** Volunteers separated cigarette butts for recycling. Lora reported 610 cigarette butts collected and approximately 171 pounds of litter. She noted that the previous comparable count was 538 cigarette butts. Morgan Park's cleanup also separated more than 100 cigarette butts, which were provided to Beautification for recycling. **Street Fair outreach:** Joanne Yee volunteered to set up and staff the Beautification table beginning in the morning. Lora and other volunteers (Cheryl

	Carmody & Rosario Russo) later joined the table, and the CLRP outreach continued through the Street Fair. **Pratt Park / First Responders Gazebo:** Barbara Peebles spoke about the September 11th Ceremony, and the appearance of the gazebo/park were discussed positively. The two new benches were installed, and Manny wants the new benches anchored to a concrete slab because they are lighter than the previous benches. Harbor Landing Management has expressed interest in donating another bench, but the number and placement of any additional benches will need City/Mayor approval. The patriotic perennial garden is doing well. • **Cornell Cooperative Extension daffodil planting:** The 6,000 bulbs have been ordered at a favorable price. A site walk/mark-out is to be coordinated with DPW/Cornell to confirm safe planting locations and avoid underground utilities. Planting is expected in October, with the exact date to be finalized. • **9/11 memorial tree:** A tree behind the memorial was discussed as having been propagated from a Ground Zero survivor tree. DPW is looking into a plaque, and the group discussed having an arborist review the tree and advise on its care. • **Boulder / bronze plaque:** The new boulder and plaque installation were reported complete and well received. The stone vendor ultimately donated the plaque installation.
Grants	**1) PSEG Long Island Community Thrive Grant:** The Pratt Park trash pail has been received through DPW. The remaining closeout item discussed was installation of the Pratt Park signs. The PSEG Long Island photo opportunity will be rescheduled after the remaining sign work is complete. **2) 2026 Cigarette Litter Recycling Program (CLRP) Grant - outreach and locations:** The program has been incorporated into the International Coastal Cleanup, Street Fair and Island Vibes outreach. Lora met with the Mayor regarding City-owned receptacle locations and is still confirming the final approved list. Four receptacles were discussed for the golf course. The Commission reviewed the three receptacle styles: small stainless-steel wall/pole units, larger stand-alone units, and stand units with an awareness sign. • **Private business Adopt-a-Receptacle program:** Participating businesses would agree to empty the receptacle and send cigarette waste to TerraCycle using the QR-code/prepaid shipping process. Volunteers are needed to visit businesses and help secure participating locations, not only suggest possible sites. Businesses that already have receptacles may still participate in the recycling program. • **City servicing / grant funds:** Lora discussed a possible $2,000 grant-funded contribution/payment to the City to help cover installation, servicing and recycling of City-owned receptacles. She stated that she would confirm the details with the Mayor before proceeding. • **Grant reporting:** The interim CLRP grant report was submitted September 15. The final report is due December 15, 2026. • **E-cigarette / vape recycling:** Lora reported follow-up discussions with Dr. Sharon Harris of SAFE and a representative of the American Lung Association. TerraCycle's five-gallon vape recycling pail/shipping program was discussed at approximately $424 per pail. The Commission discussed lithium-battery/fire-safety concerns, safe collection logistics, and the need to confirm handling requirements with TerraCycle. • **Potential collection event:** The group discussed a community cigarette-butt and vape collection/recycling event, with **November 15 - America Recycles Day** - suggested as a possible date. Dan at Winters Bros. is seeing if Winters Brothers can donate a second vape-recycling pail to

	Beautification. Details, location, safety procedures and publicity remain to be developed. Lora to set up a committee meeting date. **3) 2026 Fall Mini Green Grant for Bulbs:** Lora reported that a small Keep America Beautiful grant application of approximately $500 had been submitted for bulbs and was still pending/in review.
Upcoming Events	**Ferry Terminal Cleanup - September 26 / rain date October 3:** Weather and rain-date options were discussed **Tulip Planting - October 10 / rain date October 17** **Additional Fall / Neighborhood Cleanup:** Welwyn and Mercadante Beach were discussed. Coleen noted that Mercadante Beach itself appeared relatively clean, although the parking-lot/adjacent area may still need attention. No additional cleanup date was finalized. **December Holiday Decor:** Members discussed using available regular Beautification funds for holiday decorations; approximately $2,000 remaining was mentioned in the discussion. No specific purchase or formal vote was made. **December 17 Holiday Party / Meeting:** Members discussed a possible 6:00 p.m. start with a brief Commission meeting before the holiday gathering. The exact time and format should be confirmed. **Chip-A-Tree - January 9, 2027:** The group discussed whether the event should be moved later because many residents put trees out after last year's collection date. Epiphany falls on January 6th. No date change was finalized.
New Business	**Recycling Education:** The Commission discussed the need for additional public education on correct single-stream recycling, including keeping paper/cardboard dry and avoiding food contamination. Suggestions included a flyer, website information, a social media reel, city newsletter content and tying education to America Recycles Day. **Trash receptacles:** Big Belly-style compacting trash receptacles were discussed as a possible future option for high-use areas, although cost was noted as a concern. It could possibly be next year's PSEGLI Grant application for the GCB Litter Prevention Program 501c3. **CLRP business/property outreach:** Potential outreach locations mentioned included the Garvies Point brewery area, Fairfield apartment properties, RXR/Village Square, Harbor Landing and senior housing. Lora asked volunteers to help make direct contact with property managers/businesses. **Secretary vacancy:** The Commission still needs a secretary. Members discussed whether the secretary must be a commissioner/resident and agreed that the governing rules/bylaws should be reviewed before the position is filled.
Ideas for Future	The agenda continued to list the following ideas for future consideration: Route 107 train-trestle mural or other mural locations; storm drain emblems; House & Garden Tour or plant sale fundraiser; guest speaker luncheon fundraiser; and the Crescent Beach mural with Eileen Coles, which remains on hold for Spring 2027. No formal action was taken on these items before adjournment.
Adjourn	Chair concluded the meeting at approximately 6:25pm.

Commission meetings are generally held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 5:15 p.m. at City Hall, unless otherwise noted.

Remaining schedule listed on the agenda: 10/22/26, 11/19/26, 12/17/26 (Holiday Party), and 1/9/27 Chip-A-Tree.