

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CLEVELAND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

January 14, 2021

Members present: Myrtis Tabb, Mary Anna Davis, Laura Giaccaglia, Helen Coleman, Adolph Hilliard, Jane Dunlap

Chair Myrtis Tabb called the meeting to order at 8:30 A.M.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

After review of the minutes of the November 12, 2020 meeting, Helen Coleman made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Mary Anna Davis seconded the motion. The vote was "aye" with no opposition.

Budget Review

Old Business

1. April 24, 2021 has been selected as the date for Earth Day. The Beautification Commission would like to schedule a Clean Up Day/Clean Up week in conjunction with Earth Day. This would be held on Friday April 23, 2021, or that week. The commission could possibly set up park projects or have people meet at the downtown gazebo for a clean-up. There are several volunteer groups that might like to participate. Myrtis Tabb asked Laura Giaccaglia and Adolph Hilliard to co-chair this project.
2. Dominique Green has submitted the annual paperwork for the Tree City USA application. Mary Anna Davis suggested that the Commission should start planting more trees each year to meet requirements.
3. Jason Woods met briefly with the Beautification Commission and discussed work that needs to be done in the parks. There are six parks that are maintained by the Park Commission. Jason asked if Beautification members could help prune crepe myrtles in the parks. Mary Anna and Laura will try to get an accurate count of the number of trees, and will try to involve the Master Gardeners in the pruning.

New Business

1. Keep Mississippi Beautiful has asked Keep Cleveland Beautiful to participate in the Wildflower Trails of Mississippi program. Myrtis Tabb participated in a phone meeting with KMB staffers regarding the program. Training for the northern affiliates will be held in Batesville. The commission members, along with city employees would need to choose locations for the wildflower plots. Suggestions were made to plant the wildflowers in Amzie Moore Park, Firemen's Park, and Bear Pen Park. Ray Bell, Director of Public Works, stated that Public Works employees could prepare the locations and plant the flowers, and the maintenance of the plots would be done by the Cleveland Park Commission employees. These wildflower plots could also

be used for educational purposes. Laura Giaccaglia will arrange for MSU extension experts to meet with city employees and commission members. Mary Anna Davis will lead this project.

A motion was made by Laura Giaccaglia that Keep Cleveland Beautiful will participate, as an affiliate in Keep Mississippi Beautiful, in the Wildflower Trails of Mississippi, contingent on the participation by the Cleveland Park Commission and the Cleveland Public Works Department. Jane Dunlap seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor of the motion.

Reports

1. Laura Giaccaglia reported that the Mid-Delta Forest, Woodland, and Wildlife Association will host a tree identification workshop at Dahomey National Wildlife Refuge. They are finalizing a date. The workshop is open to youth and adults.
2. Myrtis Tabb spoke briefly about the Chamber of Commerce. Laura Bowman, the new chamber director, is making an effort to meet people in the community. The chamber will be focusing on economic development and they are updating their technology. Myrtis will invite Laura Bowman to the Beautification Commission meeting in February.
3. Mrs. Jane Dunlap has ordered new rose bushes for the downtown rose beds, but does not know when those will arrive. Mrs. Dunlap looks at the rose beds every year to determine what needs to be replaced.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Cleveland Beautification Commission



Myrtis Tabb, Chair

