

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CLEVELAND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION  
CLEVELAND TREE BOARD

February 11, 2021

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

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

Members of the commission met via Zoom, due to the inclement weather.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

After review of the minutes of the January 14, 2021 meeting, Adolph Hilliard 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. A wildflower project meeting was held at the Bolivar County Extension Service auditorium. Laura Giaccaglia arranged the meeting with MSU Extension Specialists Dr. Brett Rushing and Dr. John Byrd. Members of the Beautification Commission as well as Public Works and Park Commission employees attended the meeting. Dr. Rushing and Dr. Byrd both shared a great deal of information regarding wildflowers. Three sites have been chosen for the wildflower plots in the city parks. Keep Mississippi Beautiful will supply the seeds for the project.
2. Laura Giaccaglia also arranged a tree pruning workshop with Dr. Wilson from the MSU Extension Service. Several employees from the Public Works Department and the Park Commission attended the workshop. Dr. Wilson demonstrated correct pruning methods for crepe myrtles and also hardwood trees. Public Works pruned the trees along the walking trail and the bayou. Thank you to Laura for arranging the workshop, and Mary Anna Davis for assisting.
3. Laura Giaccaglia has spoken with the presidents of civic groups in Cleveland regarding their participation in a Clean Up Day or Clean Up week preceding Earth Day. The presidents will speak to the members of their respective groups. Mary Anna Davis has compiled a list of projects for each of the parks, and each group will select a park or project, and a day that they can work.

**New Business**

1. Frances Tims of the Delta Garden Club presented a gift of fifty dollars to the Beautification Commission from the club. The commission would like to use this gift for a specific purpose, possibly to replace trees on the walking trail. Mary Anna will determine which type of tree to purchase and place the order. The Master Gardeners will be replacing the tree which was destroyed by a driver, in honor of health care workers. The tree planting ceremonies will tie in to the city's Arbor Day requirements for the Tree City reporting.

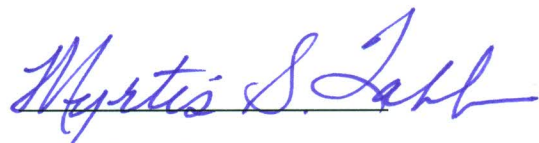
2. Myrtis Tabb will speak with officials at MDOT to determine if we can plant anything in the flower bed at Highway 8 and Cotton Row. There are a lot of small plants that would do well in that site.
3. Keep Cleveland Beautiful was recently selected as a member of the President's Circle by Keep Mississippi Beautiful. This will make KCB eligible for grants. Thank you to Connie McClellan for her work with the reporting requirements for Keep Mississippi Beautiful, which were necessary to receive this award.
4. Dominique Green has signed the proclamation for Cleveland's Tree City designation.
5. The Cleveland Beautification Commission also serves as the Tree Board. In the future, all correspondence from the Beautification Commission will also include the title Cleveland Tree Board. Myrtis Tabb will speak with the Mayor and Board regarding funds to take care of trees in the city.

### Reports

1. Laura Giaccaglia gave a brief report from the Chamber. The money which was collected from Restaurant Week will be used for one of three projects. The votes have been tallied and the chosen project will be announced shortly. One of the projects which was voted on was the purchase of new trash cans for the downtown area. If this project is not chosen, the Beautification Commission would be interested in pursuing that. Laura Giaccaglia made a motion to explore the purchase of new trash cans for downtown Cleveland. Adolph Hilliard seconded the motion. The vote was all in favor.
2. Myrtis Tabb reported that Cleveland and the Chamber of Commerce have appointed a committee to have Cleveland certified as a retirement community. This designation would bring added attention to the city. The Chamber will hire someone to work on this full time.

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

Cleveland Beautification Commission



Myrtis Tabb, Chair