

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CLEVELAND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

CLEVELAND TREE BOARD

May 13, 2021

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

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

Myrtis Tabb introduced Betsy Abraham who has been nominated to fill the position previously held by Cindy Grittman.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

After review of the minutes of the April 8, 2021 meeting, Laura Giaccaglia made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Mary Anna Davis seconded the motion. The vote was "aye" with no opposition.

**Budget Review**

Commission members reviewed the year-to-date budget and discussed the costs associated with the downtown plantings in the spring. The commission will note the approximate amount needed each spring from the overall budget. Mary Anna Davis suggested that the commission set aside part of the budget specifically for tree work. Mary Anna made a motion to request an additional 1000.00 for the budget to support tree work. Laura Giaccaglia seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.

**Old Business**

1. Cleveland Clean Up Week was very successful. Laura Giaccaglia did a wonderful job spearheading the effort. On Saturday April 10<sup>th</sup>, the Cleveland Volunteer Fire Department will work in Fireman's Park. Jason Woods had all the projects organized and ready for work. Laura has pictures of the civic organizations which participated in Clean Up Week, and she will organize those and send to the media. Thank you to Laura and Jason for organizing this project. Laura sent out 3,000 flyers to schools to promote Earth Day and Clean Up Week. Mary Anna Davis reported that approximately 75-100 vehicles delivered to Public Works on Earth Day. Next year, Myrtis Tabb has requested that we provide a better advertisement to the newspaper. The Beautification Commission provided lunch from Catfish Cabin for the Public Works employees on Earth Day, and the Bolivar County Volunteer Homemakers will provide breakfast for the firemen on April 10<sup>th</sup>.
2. The Master Gardeners planted a tree on the walking trail on April 8<sup>th</sup> in honor of healthcare workers. Mary Anna Davis reported that the second tree, which was purchased with a donation from the Delta Garden Club, will be planted on the walking trail as soon as we have received the

811 locates. Desira Warrington asked what the process is for planting a tree in someone's memory. The person making the request would need to contact the Beautification Commission/Tree Board to find a location for the tree. The Beautification Commission should keep a record of these donated trees for future reference.

3. The trash cans from Mississippi Prison Industries for downtown, will be discussed again at a later date. There are currently enough trash cans, but some of the cans may need to be moved to a better spot.
4. The wildflower seeds from Keep Mississippi Beautiful are in Jackson and are ready for pick up. KMB also has caladium bulbs for Keep Cleveland Beautiful. Mr. Hilliard offered to pick those up and also pick up seeds for the Master Gardeners. The sites for the wildflowers have been sprayed and Park Commission can begin to prepare the dirt.

### New Business

### Reports

1. Myrtis Tabb presented an update on the downtown breezeway project. The project is taking more time that originally planned. There was a great deal of decay and rotten wood. All 75,000.00 of the budget will be spent to replace the roof, joists, and ceiling. The murals have been removed, and the bricks have been pressure washed. FL Crane may possibly be able to mortar the wall to cover holes that were under the murals. The committee has met with Robinson Electric regarding needed electrical work. The alley behind the stores will need more work. Garbage bins need to be enclosed, and more lighting will be needed for the parking areas. The committee is trying to look at this as an overall project, instead of separate issues.
2. The Chamber of Commerce is now advertising for a Director of Business Development. Kelly Davis has resigned as tourism director.
3. Anna Alford Sledge is the new Director of the Train Museum.

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

Cleveland Beautification Commission



Myrtis Tabb, Chair