

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CLEVELAND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION  
HELD ON JUNE 11, 2020 AT 8:30 AM.  
IN THE BOARD ROOM AT CITY HALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Myrtis Tabb, Jane Dunlap, Helen Coleman, Desira Warrington, Mary Anna Davis, Laura Giaccaglia, Adolph Hilliard, Cindy Gritman

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

**Approval of previous meeting minutes**

After review of the February 20 and April 23, 2020 minutes, Laura Giaccaglia made a motion to approve the minutes, and Adolph Hilliard seconded the motion. The vote was "Aye" with no opposition.

**Old Business**

1. Earth Day has been rescheduled for August 22, 2020. Clean Up Day will be rescheduled for some time in the fall. The city will advertise the new dates in the newspapers and Desira Warrington will handle the advertising of those dates for the Beautification Commission. The commission will provide a catered lunch for the workers.
2. Myrtis Tabb will try to schedule a meeting with Keep Mississippi Beautiful at their offices in Madison to review the reporting requirements for Keep Cleveland Beautiful.
3. The new hanging baskets have met with overall positive comments. The plantings were a slightly different selection this year and they were planted a little later than normal, so they have not yet reached their full size. Next spring, we will ask Sarah Strain to plant them earlier. The Beautification Commission received a donation of \$2700.00 from Team Cleveland to offset the cost of the baskets. Thank you to Laura Giaccaglia for helping to obtain that donation. The hanging baskets are a partnership between the City Beautification Commission and Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce/Team Cleveland. All of the baskets were cleaned, and new soil and fertilizer were added before planting. Mary Anna Davis and three other Master Gardeners assisted with the planting of the downtown planters. They were given everything in advance in order to avoid contact with others. Mary Anna did a large amount of the work herself. The flower bed around the clock also looks wonderful this spring. The City of Cleveland Public Works employees, especially Albert Boyd, do an outstanding job taking care of all the plants.
4. The Beautification Commission would like to revisit our earlier plans to work with Jason Woods, Parks Director, on beautification projects for the city parks. The commission had planned to do clean up and beautification projects with the help of volunteers and possibly civic groups. We

may be able to add some of those projects to Clean Up Day this fall. Adolph Hilliard will speak with Jason again on those plans.

5. Work on the breezeway project with Belinda Stewart is moving forward. The breezeway committee is at the stage of determining a final plan. The final plan will be presented to the Beautification Commission, the Heritage Commission, the Mayor's long- range planning committee, and the Board of Aldermen.
6. The Beautification Commission would like to thank Paul Janoush for his assistance picking up new roses for the downtown rose beds.

### **New Business**

1. The Beautification Commission members reviewed the budget spending to date. Chair Myrtis Tabb asked that we add this review every month along with the review of the previous month's minutes.

### **Reports**

Laura Giaccaglia presented a brief Chamber of Commerce report.

The Chamber has fully re-opened and is trying to determine how to handle local events. Judson Thigpen will be retiring at the end of September and the Chamber is undergoing many new changes. They will be searching for a new President/C.E.O. with economic development experience.

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

Cleveland Beautification Commission

  
Myrtis Tabb, Chairman