

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CLEVELAND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

CLEVELAND TREE BOARD

September 9, 2021

Members present: Myrtis Tabb, Mary Anna Davis, Adolph Hilliard, Desira Warrington, Charlene Wolfe, Betsy Abraham, Laura Giaccaglia

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 August 12, 2021 meeting, Betsy Abraham made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Mary Anna Davis seconded the motion. The vote was "aye" with no opposition.

Budget Review

The new budget was not available for review. \$4683.77 is left in the current 2020/2021 budget.

Old Business

1. The hanging baskets downtown have been disappointing this year. Myrtis Tabb and Mary Anna Davis have met with Sarah Strain of CS & S Landscaping to develop a plan for next year's baskets. Public Works will deliver empty baskets to CS & S for winter storage. Sarah Strain will start plants in the greenhouse for earlier planting in the spring. Next year Beautification Commission would like to use a different selection of plants for the baskets. Laura Giaccaglia made a motion to use CS & S Landscaping for the downtown baskets next spring with the understanding that we put steps in place to make certain the baskets are acceptable to the Beautification Commission. Adolph Hilliard seconded the motion, and asked that CS & S notify us if they are not able to obtain everything we requested. The motion was adopted with all members in favor. Mary Anna Davis and Betsy Abraham will assume oversight of the basket planting, to make certain that the plants and new baskets are acceptable.
2. The Beautification Commission purchased two new trash receptacles for downtown. Betsy Abraham made a motion to purchase two more receptacles, if we can obtain them for the same price. Desira Warrington seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor. The commission would like to make certain there are enough receptacles on the southern end of the walking trail.
3. Mary Anna Davis has prepared a schedule of work/duties for everyone involved in the wildflower planting project. The plots are now ready to be tilled. Amzie Moore Park and Firemen's Park will be ready for fall planting, but there is still an issue with weeds at Bear Pen Park. Bear Pen Park may not be ready to plant until spring. The Beautification Commission is

assisting Dr. John Byrd of the MSU Extension Service in tests to determine the effectiveness of the pre-emerge Permit on the weeds in the wildflower plots.

4. Mary Anna Davis has turned in the order for fall flowers for the downtown planters to Fountain's Nursery. The cost will be approximately \$500.00 for the plants from Fountain's, and the commission will spend probably another \$500.00 for other items for the planters. We may also have additional expenditures for the wildflower project. Mary Anna will have all invoices turned in by the September 15th deadline.
5. Betsy Abraham and Mary Anna Davis submitted two options for the aesthetic improvement of the recycling area on North Bayou. The first option is to install a fence on the north property line, just south of the dental office parking lot. The second option would be the installation of shrub plantings on the north property line. This would require excavation of the existing rock and fill with the correct soil. Both options have been presented to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

New Business

1. The Indian Hawthorne shrubs in the downtown flower beds need to be pruned or removed. Mary Anna Davis recommends that the shrubs be removed and replaced with rock or mulch. She will speak with Public Works about removing those shrubs.

Reports

Chamber Report

Team Cleveland / Mainstreet have been awarded a grant for the Kamien Way lighting project. The lights may potentially be installed on the backs of the buildings by Christmas.

Team Cleveland design committee plans to install a temporary mural possibly in the next couple of months.

The annual chamber banquet will be held on September 20 at the Grammy Museum Mississippi.

The Rice Festival will be held in Merigold on September 16 from 4:00 – 7:00 P.M. The festival is free to the public.

Cade Holder, Director of Community Programs for the Chamber, is doing an outstanding job with Team Cleveland and the Mainstreet programs.

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

Cleveland Beautification Commission



Myrtis Tabb, Chair