

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CLEVELAND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

CLEVELAND TREE BOARD

October 14, 2021

**Members present:** Myrtis Tabb, Mary Anna Davis, Desira Warrington, Charlene Wolfe, Betsy Abraham, Laura Giaccaglia, 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 September 9, 2021 meeting, Betsy Abraham made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Mary Anna Davis seconded the motion. The vote of approval was unanimous.

**Budget Review**

The new 2021/2022 budget restored the Beautification Commission's annual budget to \$30,000.00.

**Old Business**

1. The wildflowers were planted in the prepared plot at Firemen's Park. This plot had been well prepared for planting. The other plots should be ready to plant in the spring. Keep Mississippi Beautiful has signs to place at the wildflower plots. The commission may need to purchase additional signs for the daylily areas along Commerce Avenue.

**New Business**

1. The crepe myrtles along Court Street need pruning. Volunteer groups can prune and clean out the crepe myrtles without permission from the Beautification Commission or the city. Phyllis McCalop of the Master Gardeners is working on this as a project.
2. Commission members briefly discussed having civic groups adopt certain areas of town to help maintain the crepe myrtles and other plantings.
3. The Indian hawthorns in the traffic islands should be pruned or removed if they are dead. City workers can remove any dead plants when possible. Any plants that are removed may be replaced with greenery and mulch.
4. Beautification Commission members discussed the need for a highway sign on Highway 8 and Cotton Row directing drivers to downtown.

**Reports**

**Chamber Report**

Cade Holder, Director of Community Programs at the Chamber, gave a report to the Beautification Commission.

Team Cleveland was recently awarded a Community Development grant of \$2500.00. Cleveland Mainstreet has already set aside \$5000.00 to be used for lights on the back of the buildings downtown. They hope to complete the project before the 50 Nights of Lights. This will help to make parking in downtown parking lots safer and more acceptable.

The Chamber is working with the breezeway design committee and is also doing a push on murals. The Heritage Commission is currently selecting members to serve on the Public Arts Committee. Hopefully others will see that murals in other towns are doing well.

The electrical receptacles along the walking trail need to be checked and repaired. They also need to be more visible to pedestrians.

The Beautification Commission would like to recognize Cade Holder for her outstanding work on Octoberfest. Overall, it was a wonderful job by the Chamber.

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

Cleveland Beautification Commission

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Myrtis Tabb, Chair