

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CLEVELAND BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 AT 8:30 AM.
IN THE BOARD ROOM AT CITY HALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Myrtis Tabb, Jane Dunlap, Desira Janoush, Helen Coleman, Adolph Hilliard, Cindy Grittman, Mary Anna Davis, and Charlene Wolfe

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

Approval of previous meeting minutes

After review of the August 15, 2019 minutes, Desira Janoush made a motion to approve the minutes, and Mary Anna Davis seconded the motion. The vote was "Aye" with no opposition.

Old Business

1. The long range planning committee is waiting for the approval of \$75,000 from the city for the renovation of the downtown breezeway. They are also trying to find matching funds. There has been a lot of discussion concerning the three designs from architect Belinda Stewart. The committee will meet with her again to discuss possible grants for the project. There are some safety issues in the breezeway which may need to be addressed as soon as possible. The back of the buildings along Kamien Way are much improved, but could still use some work. The city parking lots need lighting and general cleaning.
2. Mary Anna Davis and Laura Giaccaglia visited the Snowden Grove Arboretum with Joy Anderson, Desoto County Extension Agent. Snowden Grove has fewer trees than the planned Cleveland arboretum, but uses the same type of signage that the Beautification Commission has approved for the Cleveland arboretum. When the approved signage is ordered for Cleveland, the commission will include signs for the other trees of interest in town. The Beautification Commission would also like to create a small brochure for the arboretum, showing the location of each tree of interest. This brochure might possibly be placed in the Martin and Sue King Railroad Heritage Museum.
3. Kay Rush will donate a Japanese maple to be planted near City Hall in memory of Brett Hutchinson. Sarah Strain will look for the correct type of Japanese maple to plant.
4. The discussion regarding the City of Cleveland parks was tabled.

New Business

1. The Cleveland-Bolivar County Chamber of Commerce has requested that the Beautification Commission lead the Keep Cleveland Beautiful program in the future. The Chamber feels that the program will fit better under the leadership of the Beautification Commission. Myrtis Tabb and Laura Giaccaglia recently attended a Keep Mississippi Beautiful meeting in Greenville. There are several requirements which the commission will have to meet to remain a member. There will be a Keep Mississippi Beautiful meeting in Hattiesburg on October 11-12. Cindy Gritman volunteered to attend on behalf of Keep Cleveland Beautiful. All commission members voted to accept the request from the Chamber.
2. Ned Mitchell of the Long Range Planning Committee has requested that the Beautification Commission lead the beautification of Jones Bayou as part of our plan of work. Laura Giaccaglia brought in three groups from MSU to study the bayou. Some areas of the bayou only require cleaning, but other areas will require landscaping and possibly dredging. Josh McPherson of Eley /Barkley Engineering is looking at the engineering requirements for the project. Mary Anna Davis will prepare a Power Point presentation.
3. The commission members voted to renew the city's membership in the Mississippi Urban Forestry Council. The state conference will be held on November 7-8. The Beautification Commission will pay the \$125 membership fee and one night of travel to the conference. Helen Coleman made a motion to renew this membership and Cindy Gritman seconded the motion. The vote was "aye" with no opposition.

Reports

1. The Bolivar County Extension Service will host a tree identification workshop at Dahomey National Wildlife Refuge on Thursday October 10, 2019.

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

Cleveland Beautification Commission


Myrtis Tabb, Chairman