

Minutes
Beautification Board
September 5, 2008

Pursuant to Public Notice, Chairman Bill Mayer convened a regular meeting of the Beautification Board on Friday, September 5, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., in Council Chamber. Those present were Chairman Bill Mayer, Scotty Culp, Judith Kraemer, Ann Lombardo, Jane Mandeville, Chuck Meacham, Public Works Representative Phil Cline, Council Liaison Dominick Montanaro and Recording Secretary Leonor Olexa.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 1, 2008

Chairman Bill Mayer asked for review of the minutes.

ACTION: Jane Mandeville MOVED, SECOND Scotty Culp to approve the August 1, 2008, minutes as submitted. **VOTE:** ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

PHIL CLINE, PUBLIC WORKS REPRESENTATIVE

The Beautification Board asked about the damage caused by Tropical Storm Fay. Councilman Montanaro stated that there were about eight to nine streets that were undermined due to the flooding that had occurred. Jane Mandeville asked who was responsible for trees that had fallen down during the storm. Public Works evaluates whether these trees are a safety issue and will cut them down if they are deemed dangerous to residents or can create a road hazard. Councilman Montanaro expressed his appreciation for the outstanding job that Public Works did putting up barricades on flooded roads and unclogging the drainage systems within the City.

The Board discussed FPL power outage during the storm and expressed their dissatisfaction with the services FPL provided to correct the problem (12 to 18 hours). There are certain gridlines that go down repeatedly that should be addressed and repaired. Questions were raised on having underground power lines put in for residents. Councilman Montanaro stated City Council will be discussing underground lines at the next meeting and made the Board aware that the approximate cost to put trunk lines on Highway A1A is \$21 million. This does not include the purchase of right-of-ways for the transformers.

Scotty Culp requested that Public Works put some flowers by Pat Santos memorial tree. Mr. Cline stated that he would let Steve Rogers know.

● **PELICAN BEACH PARK/DESOTO PARK/SPORTS COMPLEX**

Public Works is maintaining the parks and there is nothing new to report.

LANDSCAPE AWARD – NONE THIS MONTH

There were no nominations this month. Scotty Culp nominated 165 Glenwood Avenue for next month's submission and asked the Board to look for other addresses to submit before next month's Landscape Award nomination.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Scotty requested the Financial Report for the Beautification Board to review; there is \$20,580.08 in the Trust Fund. Chairman Mayer stated the Board was solvent.

LICENSE PLATES

Scotty Culp reported the following license plates were sold: three from Wachovia and one from a clerk at Wachovia for a total of \$20.00 collected this month. The license plates are currently located at Ace Hardware, City Hall, Curves, Police Department, Recreation Department, Shell gas station and Wachovia. The Board stated that the Shell gas station has closed. Scotty will contact the owner to get the license plates back.

LANDSCAPE PLAN:

GEMINI PROPERTY – 1285 HIGHWAY A1A

Chairman Mayer asked for review of the landscape plans. Scotty Culp asked if this landscape plan was similar to Pelican Beach Park other than panic grass. Councilman Montanaro clarified what panic grass was and also explained that Beach elder is a dune stabilization plant that works as a ground cover with an extensive root system. The FRDAP grant is a \$50,000 no match grant that will pay for all of the cost of the Gemini Project. The City will use some of the seeds from the seed-harvesting program to provide native plants at the park.

ACTION: Scotty Culp MOVED, SECOND Ann Lombardo to approve the Gemini Property Landscape Plan as submitted. VOTE: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

The Board was concerned about the lack of parking at the Gemini Park and crossing the Highway A1A as a safety issue. People will have to use their judgment when crossing the street to get to this park. Councilman Montanaro stated that if you put parking at this location the park will become a destination spot and that is not the purpose. This is a walk/bike to park. People cross Highway A1A safely every day. There is a streetscape plan currently being discussed for the city that may have sporadic medians that could provide some relief for crossing over Highway A1A.

HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST

Due to the five-year policy for those that have won in the past, Scotty will bring the list of residences that are not allowed to participate this year. Nominations can be called into City Hall by December 12th. Judging will take place December 13th and 14th, with the results announced on December 15th.

MEMORIAL PROGRAM

The Board and Recreation Director Kerry Stoms discussed the Memorial Program with the following updates:

- Consolidated the Memorial Brick Program onto one form.
- Program provides three locations for the bricks with installation dates to assist with the purchase of the bricks to allow family members to know the dates that the brick goes down.
- Discussed cost of brick \$15 for engraving, \$1 for brick, (price of gas going up) cost to pick-up the bricks and the hours for Public Works to install does not make this a good fundraiser. Other cities have raised the price for their programs. The Board requests that Council discuss cost effectiveness for this fundraiser and the possibility of raising the price per brick.
- Questions on memorial trees/plants/benches were raised. Ms. Stoms suggested having a plaque put at the entrance of a building within our city that has the capability of adding names to have a loved one remembered.
- Residents can also look at a tree that has already been planted within the city and submit a memorial application to have a brick placed at that location.

- For those that want to donate a large sum of money, a location can be established where there is a need to have benches, trees, trash cans similar to the development that is at the south end of the DRS Community Center.

The Board will continue this discussion at the next meeting to decide whether they want to have their own memorial form for those that would like to purchase a tree/plant/bench or include the information on the existing brick form.

NEW BUSINESS

Keep Brevard Beautiful Xeriscape/Beautification Grant was discussed. Recreation Director Kerry Stoms explained that in the past, the City has found non-profit organizations to sponsor programs like this one and has reimbursed the costs to the organization. Ms. Stoms will find out if this grant could be used to make improvements within our City and if there is funding available for the 50/50 match.

The Board reviewed information from Brevard County Natural Resources Management Office on the free give-away program for beachfront residents only. The Board requested that this information be submitted in the October/November 2008 *Beachcaster* edition to allow beachfront residents the opportunity to participate in the program.

Chairman Bill Mayer stated the next meeting would be October 3, 2008; meeting was adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Leonor Olexa
Recording Secretary

CC: MAYOR/COUNCIL MEMBERS
CITY MANAGER
PUBLIC WORKS
BOARD MEMBERS
B&Z
RECREATION DEPT.