

Citizens' Beautification Committee
Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2014
Osborn Room, Bloomington Police Station

Members Present: Josh Barnett, Martha Burk, Amy Davis, Anne Driskell, Val Dumser, Sue Floyd, Marlene Gregor, Erica Larkin, Patricia Morin

Members Absent: Julie Morton, Tammi Winters

Staff Present: Jeff Hindman, John Kennedy, Bob Yehl,

Guests Present: Amy Krause, Robin VanDermay, Jeff Gastel, Jeff Martin

Josh Barnett called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Public Comment

None

Consent Agenda

Unanimously approved

Appointments

Josh Barnett opened the discussion citing the need for a committee secretary and historian. Anne Driskell has offered to be secretary for the next few meetings, but a permanent one will be needed. Josh asked the committee members to consider taking on this important post. He also asked anyone interested to be historian to contact him.

Regular Agenda

a. Downtown Bloomington Streetscape Presentation

Bob Yehl (City Asst. Engineer) and Jeff Gastel and Jeff Martin (both of Farnsworth Group) presented the Downtown Bloomington Streetscape Plan. After presentation, they led the committee in discussion of the plan. Members offered ideas to the group. Bob said there would be a public forum on March 18, 7 pm in the Osborn Room and encouraged the committee members to attend. Josh thanked them for attending.

b. Clean Up Week Team Report

Amy Krause presented a mockup of the Cleanup Week Flyer to the committee. The committee agreed to participate in Ecology Action Center's annual Illinois Sustainability and Wellness Expo at Illinois Wesleyan University on April 5. Bobby offered up five gallon buckets to the committee to be given away for community members assisting in the effort. They are left over from painting projects. The committee also agreed to do its own cleanup project on Saturday, April 19, 9 am. The committee will clean the intersection of Empire and Veterans Parkway.

c. Arbor Day Team Report

Patricia presented options for 2014 schools. Jeff Hindman suggested several tree types. Josh said he would coordinate with the mayor's office to lock in his participation. Seedlings will need to be ordered.

d. Master Gardeners Lawn & Garden Day – Saturday, March 1

Robin passed out a signup sheet for the Master Gardeners Law & Garden Day. The committee will have a table to promote cleanup week and beautification awards. Josh thanked Amy Davis for locking us in a spot and he agreed to prepared the committee display and set up the table that morning.

e. Wild Ones Grant Application Follow Up

No news on the grant application to report.

Chairman's Report

Josh reported that Tammi and Julie would be leaving the committee at the end April because their terms are up and they will have served the maximum number of years allowed under the new city ordinance. He also said Sue and Martha's terms were up and he let city hall know they would like to be reappointed. Josh went on to say that at a meeting in the near future, the committee would hold a planning session to organize fiscal year 2015 activities.

DBA Design Committee Report

Martha said Downtown Bloomington Association continues to work on various projects including repurposing alleys and murals in the downtown area. The current murals have been welcomed by all and seem to be a great addition to the downtown area.

Parks & Recreation Report

Bobby shared plans for our newest park in the northeast portion of the city. Drawings and plans were passed around for all to see. It has a baseball theme and will include baseball fields for play. Both Jeff and Bobby said plans are ramping up for annual spring duties in the city parks and they hope for a break in the weather to get started soon.

Other Business

The idea to honor Stan Cain was brought up. Stan served as committee chair for a decade and was a committee member for a long time before that. The ideas of planting a tree and presenting him a plaque were mentioned. More discussion at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.