

# MINUTES

## **Beautification Committee**

Monday, April 11, 2022 – 10:30 a.m.

Marble Hall

**1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL:** *The regular meeting of the Beautification Committee was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan. **Members present:** Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan, Kimmeron Lisle, Rob Dumas, Sandy Bachman, Pam Geronemus **Absent:** Chair Greg Burke. **Also Present:** City Administrator Dave Turner, City Clerk Silvia Gransee.*

**2. INTRODUCTION of GUESTS:** *Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan introduced the guests attending including Commissioner DeNeale, Ted Fischer, Dave Fischer, Toni Appell, and Sue Redding.*

**3. MINUTES:** *Approval of Minutes from March 8, 2022.*

**MOTION:** *Motion made by David McKeehan, seconded by Kimmeron Lisle, to approve the minutes as written.*

**ON THE MOTION:** *Roll call vote. Unanimous approval.*

**4. TREASURER'S REPORT:** *Treasurer Sandy Bachman was not in attendance yet and Vice-Chair McKeehan deferred the report to later in the meeting.*

### **5. GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING UPDATES**

**A.** *Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan reported on the "Hot Dogs in The Hut" event. Dave McKeehan reported that even though it was a downsized event it still sold out of 240 Hot Dogs, half a keg of beer, and all the water. Committee Member Kimmeron Lisle reported that the Committee received \$700.00 in Tips and another \$45.00 from the 50/50 winner. Vice-Chair McKeehan continued by saying that overall, the Committee received about \$1,005.00 from the event which will be going into the Giving Tree. Commissioner DeNeale and the Beautification Committee thanked Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan for organizing the event.*

**B & C.** *Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan reported that the work parties are continuing as scheduled and handed out an updated schedule. Dave McKeehan stated that there have been seven work parties to date which included the KCB Entrance Garden, the Circle-K Garden, the Golf Course, the 'What's your Hurry' Garden, the Mounds, and the Tiki, and the Memorial Garden. Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan further reported, that with the help from Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino the Barrier Garden was completed with mulch, as well as the Coconut Path. Dave McKeehan continued by reporting that the Coconut Path Garden is now certified as a Butterfly Garden by the Marathon Garden Club. Commissioner DeNeale commented that some of the bromeliads by the Gazebo were damaged by his landscapers and that he will replace them with new ones. Dave McKeehan commented on the upcoming work party at East Park Garden followed by the Areca Hedge by the children's playground which will be a bigger work party with lots of mulch to be spread. Vice-Chair McKeehan voiced*

concern that there would not be enough room for the tractor to pass through, but City Administrator Turner confirmed that Public Works would be able to fit through with the tractor. Dave McKeehan further reported that the Lignum Vitae plant is about two weeks out from lift and transplant. The Vice-Chair reported that they will coordinate with Public Works to lift the tree out of the ground with a forklift and that the tree most likely will be transplanted to the Golf Course.

**D.** Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan further reported that a resident approached the Beautification Committee with an idea for a memorial brick lane at Sunset Park. The proposed walkway would be about 60 feet long and 6 feet wide, which would become a memory park in lieu of benches at Sunset Park. The idea would be to sell bricks with names or quotes on them and this would be at no cost to the city. Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan stated that this would be a future project, but he wanted to make sure the proposed idea is in the minutes for future consideration. Commissioner DeNeale stated that a few years back there was communication with Gail Cortelyou from the KCB Community Association about a brick wall around the new city hall building. The Commissioner continued by saying that the thought was to start this process about a year before completion of the new city hall building with the sale of bricks. Commissioner DeNeale stated that if this project, with the help of the Community Association, will come to a start, he will buy the first brick. The Commissioner further said that he will be more than happy to help with the project. The Committee clarified that Gail Cortelyou is the KCB Community Association President. City Administrator Dave Turner stated that with the proposed Memory Brick Lane at the new city hall building it would be above flood levels, in addition, Sunset Park has a lot of grant monies which complications would have to be researched. City Administrator Turner further stated that the new city hall is much safer as well as that all the bricks will be saved and repurposed to make a new pathway to city hall. These bricks can be pulled out and replaced with bricks that have writing on them. Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan stated that he will talk to the person that had the idea for the memorial brick lane at Sunset Park and will let them know about the similar idea for the new city hall building. Commissioner DeNeale also agreed that Sunset Park is under scrutiny due to grants, and it would be better to do it at the new city hall. City Administrator Turner also stated that once the landscaping drawings from Claire at Florida Friendly Landscaping are received, the pathway will be in it and the Beautification Committee can look it over. Guest Toni Appell stated that it would be a great idea to have the paver walkway at Sunset Park to help people with walkers and wheelchairs. Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan stated that the walkway at Sunset Park could be an issue due to being involved in grants and that City Hall might be a better solution. Commissioner DeNeale also stated that the new city hall building will have a beautiful courtyard area which would be a perfect fit for the walkway. Vice-Chair McKeehan agreed with the Commissioner and said that he will talk to the resident about the proposed idea.

**E.** Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan recognized volunteers for the Beautification Committee including attending guests Dave Fischer, Ted Fischer, and Toni Appell. Dave McKeehan continued by saying that many other volunteers contribute to the Committee, and he would like to recognize these as well. The Vice-Chair said that new volunteers are always welcome to join and are much appreciated. Vice-Chair McKeehan asked the Committee to wear the Beautification Shirts to work parties to be visible in the public.

*F. Vice-Chair McKeehan reported on the proposed buttonwood hedge on the pickleball field on the north field. The Vice-Chair recognized Sue Redding representing the Fishing and Boating Club as well as the Pickleball Club and reported that himself and Sue had discussions on planting 10 7-gallon Buttonwood along the north fence by the pickleball court to block the trailer parking. This would be an extension to the area hedge and would also be an abatement of noise and wind. Vice-Chair McKeehan stated that after discussion with Sue Redding he believes that it might be a reasonable project with low maintenance, but they might take up some space. Dave McKeehan continued that the question would be, on how much encroachment of the trailer parking would be tolerated, how much maintenance for the city would be required, and if there are any infrastructure issues like sewer line or other ground issues that might have to be moved. Vice-Chair McKeehan stated that he would like to propose a motion that if such project would be approved by the city, that the Beautification Committee would endorse the project to the city including help with labor, preparations of sketches and drawings, as well as physical activity, setting up irrigation, and taking care of the plants for the first six months until they are established. Sue Redding stated that the trees would buffer the visual of the treatment plant and would eliminate the need of buying wind nets every couple of years since it would be a natural wind net and sound buffer. Sue Redding further stated that the Boating and Fishing Club will donate the money for the project and the trees. Sue Redding continued by saying that Dave McKeehan had indicated that the irrigation can be run from the Ficus Tree system. Sue Redding reported that the plants are easy to maintain once planted, and if properly planted the water runoff from the courts will help with the watering. Committee Member Kimmeron Lisle recalled discussing this topic before and that Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino had stated that pipes were in the area. Dave McKeehan stated that this has been discussed independently and that is why the item had been placed on the agenda. Kimmeron Lisle recalled Mike Guarino maybe mentioning sewer lines before. Dave McKeehan stated that Public Works Department Head Guarino believes that a big sewer line runs in the ground there which would have to be verified and looked at. City Administrator Dave Turner stated that he had a conversation with Sue Redding on the topic and that he opposes the project. The City Administrator further stated that the long-term trailer parking spots have been sold to Key Colony Beach residents and the plants would cause the trailers to stick out into the roadway which would cause an obstruction. City Administrator Turner further stated that the reclaimed water pipes would have to be extended, and rubble in the area would have to be dug out and replaced with dirt. The City Administrator continued by saying that only one estimate has been submitted but three are needed, and that the city has a contract with BrightView for landscaping needs. City Administrator Turner continued by saying that the Utility Board has spend \$3,500.00 for purchasing Buttonwoods for the far fence and that by next season the sewer plant will not be visible. City Administrator Turner stated that he believes that the planting of the buttonwoods will place a strain on the Public Works Department after everyone leaves for the season and he is against it. Kimmeron Lisle stated that maybe the question on the sewer line can be resolved first which Dave McKeehan agreed upon. The Committee further discussed the possibility of sewer lines in the area of question. Sue Redding stated that there is only one trailer that effects the parking spots which City Administrator Turner corrected by stating that the area from 8<sup>th</sup> Street all the way around has been sold for trailer spots and that the residents have the prerogative to have purchased a trailer spot but not having one parked*

there. City Administrator Turner further stated that FWC has a spot there as well and that the distance between trailer and fence is only one foot. Sue Redding stated that she only saw one visual spot that would be affected which City Administrator Turner stated that the spots are sold. Committee Member Kimmeron Lisle stated the question if a different plant could be chosen like a growing vine that would provide the same effect. Dave McKeehan stated that the Committee has used plants within the city that grow intertwined which work effectively as a windbreaker. The Committee further discussed the possibility of using a climbing plant and contacting Michelle in Key West on advice. Sue Redding stated that this would work fine and also clarified to the Committee that flowers are fine as long as there are not yellow. City Administrator Turner stated the question if this would present a problem on trimming on the inside of the fence and leaves falling on the court. Dave McKeehan stated that this would not present a problem and just minor trimming is required. The Committee further discussed the issue of placing netting on the fence and if that would present a problem. Committee Member Kimmeron Lisle stated that there are many other plants that could work and have not been thought about. Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan agreed with Kimmeron Lisle and that a fence climbing plant might work and worth looking into. Commissioner DeNeale stated that that the fence belongs to the Recreation Committee and under Florida Law the Beautification Committee is a subcommittee that reports to the Commission. Commissioner DeNeale further stated that votes are needed from both committees and then the issue would be brought in front of the Commission after those votes. City Administrator Turner asked the question on how much weight would be put on the fence and in case of a weather event how much stress would be placed on the fence with a fence climbing plant. Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan reported that the weight would be minimal but said that this could be studied in reference to the wind load. Dave McKeehan stated that the plant is not that solid, and they have not had any problems with much lighter fences like the one behind the post office. City Administrator Turner asked how the fences made out after Hurricane Irma which Dave McKeehan stated most plants were planted after Hurricane Irma and that about half of the fences were lost in Irma. Committee Member Sandy Bachman said that the committee should do an investigation on what might be a solution and then bring it back for approval. Committee Member Kimmeron Lisle stated that she will do more research on the issue and that another goal would be not to have irrigation. Dave McKeehan said that irrigation is not an issue since the pipes are already there. The committee further discussed on where irrigation is located and from where it could be extended. Dave McKeehan continued by saying that the plants are slow growers, not big water takers, and need about three years to be fully intertwined with the fence. Dave McKeehan further said that the committee will pursue the idea of climbing plants and present it at the next meeting for a vote. Vice-Chair McKeehan continued by asking that the Recreation Committee investigate the idea of climbing plants as well and if that would be something they would like to pursue. The Beautification Committee agreed to do further research on the topic with Committee Member Kimmeron Lisle taking the lead on it.

## **6. BOARD MEMBER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL**

City Administrator Dave Turner reported on the agenda item of approval of a color palette for city owned buildings. City Administrator Turner reported on the colors that have been used already from the color palette and what future projects are planned on being painted. The City Administrator explained that no particular colors have been slated for specific projects but rather that colors can be chosen from the palette. Committee Member Kimmeron Lisle

*asked if outside advice on the color palette could be sought, which City Administrator Dave Turner stated that advice was given but it is really for the city to decide. The color palette follows the front entrance sign with the city emblem, which is planned on being trademarked by the next Commission Meeting. City Administrator Dave Turner explained that the reasoning behind the color palette is to blend the city owned buildings into the city and not just have white buildings. City Administrator Turner further explained that the front entrance sign is the base for the color palette and that all signs will have the city emblem once trademarked.*

**MOTION:** Motion made by Dave McKeehan, seconded by Pam Geronemus, to approve the color palette presented by the City Administrator Dave Turner.

**ON THE MOTION:** Roll call vote. Unanimous approval.

*7. Committee Member Sandy Bachman reported on the Beautification Award and that April's Award was awarded to 101 11<sup>th</sup> Street in February. Sandy Bachman reported that she has been in contact with the owner and will let the committee know when the owner is back in town. City Administrator Dave Turner asked the Committee to drop off the sign with the Public Works Department. The City Administrator further stated that the city will supply the new pole and will remove the sign since Public Works has a machine to help put the sign in the ground. Committee Member Sandy Bachman further stated that in prior years April is the last month in the season to award Beautification Awards and that the awards will start up again in November. The Committee agreed to follow the schedule.*

*The Committee talked once more about the 'Hot Dogs in The Hut' event and that the event was a success. Vice-Chair McKeehan thanked Committee Member Rob Dumas for his help in setting up the event as well as Kimmeron Lisle for the 50/50 raffle, and Sandy Bachman's success with her tip jar.*

*Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan asked if the Public Works Department can check the irrigation at the Front Entrance Garden. City Administrator Turner stated that he will have Jesse from the Public Works Department check on that. Dave McKeehan further thanked Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino for his help with the Barrier Garden as well as the additional gardens. The City Administrator asked the Committee to pick some plants to relocate to the golf course to fill in. Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan stated that they are about two weeks out from lifting the Lignum Vitae Tree. Committee Member Kimmeron Lisle asked on the palm tree behind the police trailer which City Administrator Dave Turner stated that it will be pulled with a big machine but still needs a location to be replanted. Committee Member Kimmeron Lisle further continued by saying that there are additional plants that could be pulled with the machine and that she would like to make best use of the machine when it is being rented. City Administrator Turner stated that a lot of plants will not be able to be saved since their roots have infiltrated under the old city hall building. The City Administrator further stated that the big palm tree and some additional plants could maybe be pulled by Public Works with the big bucket and could be replanted the same day to be saved.*

*Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan asked about the big Robellini Tree and if it could be saved. City Administrator Dave Turner stated that the start of the city hall rebuild is still waiting on moving the post office first. The City Administrator further explained the process of the new*

*flood map requirements and that the new building must be shifted two feet towards the ocean. City Administrator Turner continued by saying that he is hoping to shut the building down after April and that there will be still time for harvesting of plants and trees until the actual demolition will start. The City Administrator further stated that all bricks will be saved for the new path as well as the big tree.*

*The Committee further discussed the Eucalyptus tree that used to be at Sunset Park and the idea of planting a replacement. Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan stated that maybe by next meeting the topic of a replacement can be addressed.*

**8. NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, May 10, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

**9.** *The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.*

**Respectfully submitted,**

*Silvia Gransee*

**City Clerk**

**ADOPTED: May 10, 2022**

*Silvia Gransee*

**City Clerk**