

MINUTES

Beautification Committee

Tuesday, July 12, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

Marble Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL: The regular meeting of the Beautification Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Greg Burke. **Members present:** Chair Greg Burke, Vice-Chair Dave McKeehan (via phone), Kimmeron Lisle, Pam Geronemus, Kimmeron Lisle, Sandy Bachman. **Absent:** Rob Dumas **Also Present:** City Administrator Dave Turner, City Clerk Silvia Gransee, Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino.

2. Introduction Of Guests – None.

3. Minutes – None.

4. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Sandy Bachman reported on the Beautification Budget and remaining maintenance and planting monies as well as the Giving Tree budget. The Committee had no questions for the Treasurer.

5. Gardening and Landscaping Updates

A. Mulch Party – East Park: Kimmeron Lisle reported on having visited East Park with Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino and that the park can use the remaining pallet of mulch and she would like to organize a work party. The Committee discussed different available dates for the work party. Kimmeron Lisle asked City Clerk Silvia Gransee if an email-blast could be sent out to ask for volunteers which the City Clerk confirmed. The Committee agreed upon July 26, 2022, at 7 P.M. for the East Park work party.

Chair Greg Burke stated that Tom Tucker had approached him about an overgrown bush in the center of East Park that needs to be trimmed. Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino stated that the landscaping company is responsible for the trimming but they might not have noticed it. Dave McKeehan stated that Mr. Tucker was concerned of aggressive pruning by the city's landscaping company and that someone from the Beautification Committee should be overseeing the trimming. Dave McKeehan continued saying that it would be great if the landscaping company or Public Works could be there at the day of the mulch party, to do a light pruning job while the Committee would be present. Chair Greg Burke stated that he will bring his hedge trimmer if attending.

B. Kapok Tree Update – Visit from Michelle Mularz: Kimmeron Lisle reported that Michelle Mularz visited the Kapok Tree and her opinion was that the tree is healthy but she did have some concerns about the top part of the tree. Kimmeron Lisle continued saying that Mrs. Mularz stated that the root system looks very healthy even though there was worry about the grass trimming around the roots. Mrs. Mularz recommended to have an arborist assist with pruning the dead branches, to kill the grass between the roots, and to mulch that area. Kimmeron Lisle stated that another pallet of mulch needs to be purchased. City Administrator Dave Turner suggested to put newspaper down first and to put the mulch on top of it, and then some sort of snow fencing can

be put around it. Kimmeron Lisle asked the City Administrator on a timeline when this should be completed which City Administrator stated within this budget. The Committee discussed how much mulch was left from the previous work parties which Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino stated he would check on. Kimmeron Lisle continued saying that Mrs. Mularz would reach out to colleagues for advice on the tree as well give a recommendation on an arborist. Greg Burke stated that DotPalm has an arborist as well. City Administrator Dave Turner stated that the maintenance budget from the Beautification Committee can be used to cover the cost for this. Greg Burke suggested buying two pallets for the project.

MOTION: Motion made by Kimmeron Lisle, seconded by Sandy Bachman, to approve the purchase of two pallets of mulch for the Kapok Tree.

ON THE MOTION: Roll call vote. Unanimous approval.

Kimmeron Lisle asked for Department Head Mike Guarino and City Administrator Dave Turner to make the decision on the cost for the arborer from DotPalm to be appropriate. Sandy Bachman stated she would like to authorize a spending amount to help with the timeline. The Committee discussed what amount to preauthorize for the expense of the arborist. Chair Greg Burke suggested a ceiling of \$5,000.00 to cover the costs of the arborist and trimming.

MOTION: Motion made by Greg Burke, seconded by Sandy Bachman, to authorize up to \$5,000.00 for the consultation of an arborist and trimming of the Kapok Tree.

ON THE MOTION: Roll call vote. Unanimous approval.

C. City Hall Landscaping – Last date to move plantings: City Administrator Dave Turner stated that by the end of September all desired plants should be moved. Kimmeron Lisle asked on the start on the Asbestos removal which the City Administrator stated was no definite date set yet. Kimmeron Lisle asked what will happen to the coral rocks which City Administrator Turner stated will be moved and used as needed. Kimmeron Lisle further suggested that Florida Friendly Landscaping could be informed that coral rocks are available in their garden design. Dave McKeegan asked about the Triple Robellini and he believes that Public Works should be able to transplant it. Kimmeron Lisle suggested for the Committee and Public Works Department Head Guarino to take a walk to decide what plants can be transplanted. Sandy Bachman, as well as Kimmeron Lisle, suggested that plants that cannot be used could be given away to residents to which City Administrator Turner advised to have this approved by the Commission prior. City Administrator Turner explained that government property cannot be sold either and that the Committee should try to move as many plants as possible.

6. Board Member Items for Discussion/Approval

a) 2022/2023 Beautification Budget: Chair Greg Burke asked if there were any additional items the Committee would like to have added to the budget and at what date City Administrator Turner needed their final budget request. City Administrator Turner explained that he would like to have the Committee's budget request as soon as possible to be able to stay on track with the overall budget and that the first budget meeting is on July 28th. Sandy Bachman asked if the Committee decided on the 'What's Your Hurry' Garden and if Florida Friendly Landscaping must be used for the project. Kimmeron Lisle stated that the Committee can use anyone they like, however, that they have to put the budget together to cover the cost. Kimmeron Lisle continued saying that the

goal of using Florida Friendly Landscaping was not to have to use irrigation for the garden. The Committee discussed costs for the previous mounds. Kimmeron Lisle asked for \$4,000.00 to be put into the budget request for the entrance garden and to let the Commission make the decision on the final budget. The Committee further discussed labor and planting costs for the final mound as well as what kind of design to implement. Sandy Bachman suggested that there is also the Giving Tree money to use and she believes that residents would like to see their donation being used in that area. Kimmeron Lisle asked for the budget request to be raised to \$5,000.00 with the knowledge that the Beautification Committee would match the amount from the Giving Tree monies. Chair Greg Burke stated that there will be no electrical or water going to the new mound which Kimmeron Lisle confirmed.

b) Open Question on Liability Insurance for Xmas Decorations volunteer day: City Administrator Dave Turner reported that he reached out to the insurance company for clarification on coverage but had not heard back yet. City Administrator Turner explained that the regular liability insurance does not cover special events. The Committee and City Administrator continued to discuss the costs of the event insurance and what events are covered under it. Kimmeron Lisle asked if they deck page from the policy was available for the Committee's files which City Administrator Dave Turner stated he will provide when he received it. City Administrator Dave Turner further explained that the Christmas Boat Parade is an outside event and not part of the city. City Administrator Turner continued saying that he expects for insurance costs to go up. Greg Burke asked about the water bill for the front entrance and if there is a meter for that area. Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino confirmed the existence of meter for the front entrance. The Committee discussed the monthly water costs for the front entrance and if the meter could be possibly replaced. Chair Greg Burke stated that he will send an email to the Committee members and City Administrator Dave Turner for the budget request for 2022/2023. The Committee agreed that Dave McKeehan will contact Tom Tucker updating him on the developments for East Park.

7. Beautification Award: None during the Summer season to be started again in October 2022.

8. Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 9, 2022.

9. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Silvia Gransee
City Clerk

ADOPTED: August 9, 2022
Silvia Gransee
City Clerk