

MINUTES

Beautification Committee

Tuesday, March 12th, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Marble Hall, 600 W. Ocean Drive, Key Colony Beach, Florida &
via Zoom Conferencing

1. CALL TO ORDER and ROLLCALL: The Key Colony Beach Beautification Committee meeting was called to order by Chair Sandy Bachman at 10:00 am followed by Rollcall. **Present:** Chair Sandy Bachman, Vice-Chair Pam Geronemus, Dave McKeehan, Jo Corso, Sandra Glassman, 1st Alternate Mary Kohl. **Also present:** Mayor-City Administrator Joey Raspe, Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino, Administrative Assistant Cheryl Baker, City Clerk Silvia Gransee.

Public Attendance: Approximately 20

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS, CHANGES, OR DELETIONS: None.

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

a. Donald Steamer: Water Usage in our Gardens

Chair Bachman introduced Donald Steamer to talk about water usage in city garden's. Donald Steamer talked about irrigation, water use in parks and city gardens, the golf course, and cost for water through the Reverse Osmosis Plant. Donald Steamer explained the process of the Reverse Osmosis Plant and allocations to different parks. Donald Steamer gave further details on the workings of the wastewater, Reverse Osmosis System, and Public Works Department Head Guarino's responsibilities. Donald Steamer talked about the City's irrigation system, cost to run the RO System, water use for the City's gardens and responsibilities of the Public Works Department.

City Clerk Gransee clarified, for the record, for Donald Steamer appearing as a private resident and not by directive of the Utility Board, and further asked all problems to be addressed to the Mayor-City Administrator and not the Public Works Department Head.

City Clerk Gransee reiterated the importance of following procedure and following Sunshine Law.

Chair Bachman talked about expenses to water the front gardens and miscommunication on what plantings were installed. Mayor-City Administrator Raspe reminded for these questions to be directed to the Utility Board and staff.

Chair Bachman asked to keep an eye out for the gardens to ensure correct watering. Dave McKeehan agreed and for their to be a number of issues with equipment failure. Dave McKeehan informed about half of the gardens being unassigned to a volunteer. Mayor-City Administrator Raspe asked Chair Bachman to inform him of any issues so he can coordinate with staff.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:

Ted Bently, 980 Shelter Bay Drive, thanked the Committee for their work for the City. Ted Bentley talked on the Retention Pond and proposed plans to be a Nature sanctuary. Ted Bentley stated for this to be not a good use of resources and for the pond to be built for stormwater retention. Ted Bentley talked on the intended purpose of the retention pond to be to alleviate flooding from 7th, 8th Street, and Shelter Bay, and for the purpose of collecting storm debris in case of a storm. Ted Bentley asked the Committee to defer a vote on the matter and to look for alternatives on how to fix the area. Ted Bentley gave further thoughts on how the area should be treated and asked for comments or questions.

Chair Bachman suggested for Ted Bently to go to the Utility Board to address raised concerns. Ted Bentley gave understanding with the suggestion.

Vice-Mayor Foster clarified not to be commenting as a Commissioner. Vice-Mayor Foster commented that the retention pond will not be used again for a storage area in the future. Vice-Mayor Foster further informed for the pond to have no drainage and to be competing with water levels. Vice-Mayor Foster invited the public to attend the next Townhall to comment on a proposed solar field in the retention pond. Vice-Mayor Foster reiterated the importance of attending the upcoming meeting and stated to be happy to answer questions.

5. MINUTES

a. Beautification Meeting Minutes February 13th, 2024: Chair Bachman asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

MOTION: Motion made by Vice-Chair Geronemus to approve the minutes. Dave McKeehan seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: None.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

6. BUDGET UPDATE

a. February Budget Report: Vice-Chair Geronemus updated on the February budget and Giving Tree balance.

b. Giving Tree Report

- i. Update on 'Hot Dogs in the Hut' Event & Funds raised

Chair Bachman thanked all for participating in the 'Hot-Dogs-in-the Hut' event and informed on having sold 900 hot dogs.

7. GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING UPDATES

a. Work Party Updates: Dave McKeehan informed on scheduled and completed work parties for the year. Dave McKeehan informed for the Tiki Garden to have been completed with about 40 bags of mulch, as well as the golf course with about 150 bags of mulch. Dave McKeehan informed for the remaining work parties to be held every Saturday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm and gave further details on the planned work.

b. Work Party Schedule: Dave McKeehan informed on four new volunteers for the Beautification Committee and to be sending notices on work parties out to everyone on the list. Mayor-City Administrator Raspe informed on upcoming pressure washing for Marble Hall and further asked if the Committee can trim the landscaping in front of the hall window. Dave McKeehan stated to be always looking for citizen and Commission input on landscaping ideas.

Mayor-City Administrator Raspe confirmed for Marble Hall and the Post Office to be used in the future and to concentrate on landscaping for these areas.

The Committee further talked about possible landscaping ideas and the use of Florida Friendly Landscaping as well as other resources.

Chair Bachman stated for work parties to include namely mulching and clipping which Dave McKeehan elaborated to include weeding, trimming, and the occasional installation of new plants.

Dave McKeehan confirmed the need for fertilizer to be semi-annual but cautioned on the use due to DPA regulations. Chair Bachman suggested to check on the need for fertilizer to be added to the next meeting for discussion. Dave McKeehan stated for the major fertilizing having to be coordinated with Brightview.

c. Photographic Beautification Plan for the City Hall Garden

Dave McKeehan distributed copies of pictures of the City Hall garden from the past and current. Dave McKeehan informed for the intention of the proposal to create what once was had and explained drawings and suggested plants. The Committee discussed what areas need trimming and mulching and in what order to schedule work. Dave McKeehan advised on close coordination with the City Commission on the schedule for the City Hall Front Garden.

Chair Bachman asked for a suggested number of plants and a motion and anticipated costs. Dave McKeehan stated to prefer a quote for the Ixora's. Dave McKeehan suggested a professional purchase and installation in the amount of no more than \$400.00.

City Clerk Gransee confirmed for Brightview to have been used in the past as a vendor and for only one quote to be needed.

MOTION: Motion made by Dave McKeehan to use no more than \$500.00 for the purchase and installation of new Ixoras for the west face of Marble Hall per the drawings that were provided, and to receive an actual quote. Sandra Glassman seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: City Clerk Gransee confirmed that the approval included for the work to be carried out if the quote is under \$500.00.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

d. Discussion/Approval on the Beautification Improvement Plan for the Retention Pond

Chair Bachman spoke on the list of plants that was provided by Public Works Department Head Mike Guarino, informed on having met with Florida Friendly on salt tolerant plants, and suggested the use of a landscaper.

Dave McKeehan asked to provide a presentation on the subject and having met with Public Works Department Head Guarino on the list of suggested plants. Dave McKeehan cautioned to understand the requirement for the pond to work as a retention pond and to follow state specifications. Dave McKeehan informed of having taken aerial photographs of the area and talked on the importance of fully understanding the proposed project and requirements. Dave McKeehan suggested for this to have been done in a comprehensive way and asked on guidance from the Commission to the Beautification Committee on how much to be involved.

Vice-Mayor Foster informed for Engineer Jason Shepler from Mittauer Engineering to be able to help with the design information. Vice-Mayor Foster agreed for saat having not been the best idea to use in the retention pond and informed for Jason Shepler to be reaching out to the South Florida Water Management District to ensure compliance. Vice-Mayor Foster informed on a similar retention pond using reeds act as natural wick to be functional and for the water fountain to purpose to keep the mosquito larvae under control.

Dave McKeehan asked on permission to contact Jason Shepler. Vice-Mayor Foster suggested to add Jason Shepler to the next meeting agenda and cautioned for the Utility Board to have to go through their decision making process, as well as the upcoming Townhall meeting on solar.

Dave McKeehan talked on the objectives of the enhancement of the retention pond and talked on questions on drainage functions, design requirements, and the need for some possible studies. Dave McKeehan cautioned that the function of the retention pond must be foremost that of a storm retention

pond and that more information must be gathered. Dave McKeehan reiterated the importance of following the Commission's directive and gave appreciation for citizen comments.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL

a. Christmas Decorations 2024: New Purchases & Replacements

b. Quote from Brandano on banner replacement: Chair Bachman talked about provided designs and having received additional designs in the morning. Chair Bachman suggested for the Committee to pick the favorite styles and bring back the top four choices at the next Committee meeting.

c. Alternate Quote on banner replacement: Jo Corso spoke on the suggestion of using an alternate vendor for banners and explained the personalization option.

Chair Bachman asked for all members to look at the designs and options to personalize holiday sayings and informed on pricing and fabric used. Chair Bachman informed to talk to Public Works Department Head Guarino on his opinion on vinyl versus sunbrella and to bring back the matter at next month's meeting.

9. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL FOR UPCOMING BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS

a. March Award: Chair Bachman spoke on the prior month award and recalled a wonderful day. Chair Bachman spoke on the house of Jim and Janie Byland on 72 7th Street and made a nomination for the March award. Chair Bachman asked for other nominations. There were none.

MOTION: Motion made by Dave McKeehan to award the March award to 72 7th Street. Joe Corso seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: None.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

b. April Award: Nominations to be send to City Clerk Gransee.

10. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, April 9th, 2024, 10:00 am. There were no objections to the meeting date.

11. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 11:09 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Silvia Gransee

City Clerk

ADOPTED: April 9, 2024

Silvia Gransee

City Clerk