

MINUTES

Beautification Committee

Tuesday, July 9th, 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, followed by Rollcall. **Present:** Chair Sandy Bachman, Vice-Chair Pam Geronemus, Dave McKeegan (via Zoom), Jo Corso (via Zoom), and Mary Kohl (via Zoom). **Absent:** Sandra Glassman. **Also present:** Mayor Joey Raspe, Administrative Assistant Cheryl Baker, and City Clerk Silvia Gransee.

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS, CHANGES, OR DELETIONS: Chair Bachman informed of the following agenda addition:

- Under Item 7c. State of the Gardens.

City Clerk Gransee informed of the following agenda additions:

- Under Item 7d. Update on the Ixora plants by City Hall
- Under Item 8d. Discussion/approval of a planting area around palm trees at the Post Office.
- Discussion/approval of the purchase of plantings around the new Tiki Hut Gazebo by City Hall.

The Committee had no objections to the additions.

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: None.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE: None.

5. MINUTES

- a. Beautification Meeting Minutes May 14th, 2024: Chair Bachman asked for any minute changes. There were none, and the minutes were approved as written.

6. BUDGET UPDATE

- a. June/July Budget Report
- b. Giving Tree Report

Vice-Chair Geronemus gave the June financial report and discussed the available funds in the Beautification Committee Budget and Giving Tree fund.

7. GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING UPDATES

- a. Discussion/Approval of replacement plantings in Memorial Garden: Chair Bachman introduced the agenda item and asked Mary Kohl to elaborate. Mary Kohl informed that no specific plan had been formulated on what type of plants to use. Chair Bachman informed that the hot weather is unfavorable for new plantings and the area looks much approved with the completed garden work.
- b. Update on the Retention Pond Field Trial: Chair Bachman spoke on monitoring the detention pond and asked Dave McKeegan to elaborate. Dave McKeegan agreed that the water level in the pond is down and that future forecasts show little to no rain. Dave McKeegan informed having given

the green light to start the project and anticipated progress in the coming week. Chair Bachman confirmed continuous monitoring of the pond and to keep Dave McKeegan informed.

- c. State of the Gardens: Chair Bachman reported spotting ants at the 'What's your Hurry' garden and asked if the Public Works Department could assist. Chair Bachman further noted that additional landscaping maintenance is needed and suggested meeting for a small work party. Chair Bachman reported the Tiki garden to look good, with some additional need for pruning. Chair Bachman continued updating on the palm trees and grass by the Post Office and suggested leaving the area for three months due to pesticides having been sprayed. Dave McKeegan agreed to wait for a few months.
- d. Updated on Ixora plants by City Hall: Chair Bachman reported watering and fertilizing the plants and asked Committee members to assist with pulling weeds, adding screens, and putting mulch down. Chair Bachman spoke of the difficulty of finding replacements for two broken pots and gave uncertainty about the need for replacement. Dave McKeegan suggested the plants looked better in the ground and did not see good use of funds for the expenditure. The Committee agreed to preserve the plants and defer the topic of the pots. Chair Bachman spoke about the Coconut Palm Path needing hand care and the Milkweed being eaten. Jo Corso informed that the plant will come back and suggested adding smaller plants around it and using Miracle Grow for improvement. Chair Bachman reported the possibility of a dead tree on the City Hall Lawn. Dave McKeegan confirmed one dead Gumbo Limbo tree in the area and informed of the need for the tree to be replaced in kind due to being a protective species. Dave McKeegan suggested that Brightview confirm the need for removal and replacement and ask for an estimate. Mayor Raspe asked to confirm the tree was dead and gave further details on the type. Vice-Chair Geronemus informed on the need to keep the grass away from the roots of a Gumbo Limbo tree for proper growth and nutrient contribution.

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL

- a. Discussion/Approval of Sunset Beach Park Improvements & update on Sunset Park sign repairs: Chair Bachman informed that Public Works Department Head Guarino is obtaining estimates for gold leafing and having available donations for sign improvements. Chair Bachman asked for the Committee's input on planting a Royal Poinciana at Sunset Park. The Committee agreed for the tree to be beautiful but messy. Chair Bachman asked about input for planting a tree by the 'What Your Hurry' Sign to fill the empty area. The Committee continued talking about maintenance needs and other possible planting areas. Jo Corso suggested planting a Jacaranda Tree. Dave McKeegan cautioned for the trees to look good in the spring but bare for the remainder of the year. Chair Bachman asked for the matter to be tabled and to bring more ideas for Sunset Park in the future. The Committee agreed.
- b. Discussion/approval of the purchase of plantings around the new Tiki Hut Gazebo by City Hall: Chair Bachman informed the Committee that the new Tiki had been built and asked for plant suggestions. Chair Bachman gave further thoughts on the type of plant needed and her intention to share pictures with the Committee of the completed Gazebo. Mayor Raspe asked about the need to paint the stucco on the base before planting new vegetation. Chair Bachman agreed to take a look.
- c. Discussion/Approval for design ideas for a kiosk for public information about fitness trails: Chair Bachman introduced the agenda item and asked for suggestions on possible locations for a kiosk. The Committee discussed possible locations. City Clerk Gransee informed having talked to Richard Pflueger, who suggested using the new Tiki to display information. Dave McKeegan suggested identifying a specific entrance to the city to display information for the public. Mayor Raspe

recalled the Recreation Committee having recognized the area around City Hall as the starting point for the suggested fitness trails. Chair Bachman agreed that City Hall was identified as the entrance and for the information to be displayed to be useful for visitors. Dave McKeehan commended the Recreation Committee for their work on the matter and the idea being a great concept with a lot of work to do.

- d. Discussion/Approval of alternative options for Holiday banners from Brandano: Chair Bachman informed about a new material having been offered by Brandano and stated to prefer the previously used Sunbrella fabric.

MOTION: Motion made by Chair Bachman to have the holiday banners completed in Sunbrella fabric. Vice-Chair Geronemus seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Dave McKeehan supported the idea and stated that the new material would not last as long as Sunbrella. Chair Bachman expressed concerns about wind durability and the ability of the current product to work.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

Chair Bachman asked for any further discussion items.

Dave McKeehan asked to revisit the retention pond. He informed on his intention to authorize proceeding with the plantings and talk to Public Works Department Head Guarino about going forward. Dave McKeehan also spoke on the approved budget and the need to keep the Utility Board informed. Dave McKeehan also noted the need to pay contractors. City Clerk Gransee informed to follow up with the City accountants on transferring funds from the Giving Tree account to the general Beautification Committee budget.

Chair Bachman informed on the intentions to complete some work on the gardens before residents return. Mayor Raspe asked about the prior approval for the purchase of plants by City Hall. Chair Bachman explained the difficulties obtaining yellow plants but confirmed that the plants had been purchased and planted. City Clerk Gransee confirmed that Chair Bachman could share pictures of plantings without breaking Sunshine Law.

9. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL FOR UPCOMING BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS: None during the Summer.

10. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 13th, 2024 at 10:00 am.

11. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Silvia Roussin
City Clerk

ADOPTED: August 13, 2024
Silvia Roussin
City Clerk