

MINUTES

Beautification Committee

Tuesday, August 11, 2026 – 10:00 AM

At the Temporary Meeting Place for the City of Key Colony Beach at
The Key Colony Inn – Back Patio, 700 W. Ocean Drive, Key Colony Beach
& via Zoom Conferencing

1. **CALL TO ORDER and ROLLCALL:** The Key Colony Beach Beautification Committee was called to order by Chair Sandy Bachman at 10:03 AM. **Present:** Chair Sandy Bachman, Vice-Chair Pam Geronemus, Dave McKeehan (via Zoom). **Absent:** Janie Byland, Janice Mueller, 1st Alternate Jo Corso, 2nd Alternate Nancy Helme. **Also present:** City Administrator John Bartus, Administrative Assistant Par Darnall, City Clerk Silvia Roussin.

2. **AGENDA ADDITIONS, CHANGES, OR DELETIONS:** Chair Bachman asked for any agenda additions. City Clerk Roussin reported three additions: a BrightView proposal under Item 9a for landscape improvements by the Public Works Building; a BrightView proposal as new Item 9e for landscape improvements around a storm drain; and a discussion on the Sailfish Statue under the Giving Tree Report in Item 6b. With no other changes requested, Chair Bachman asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

MOTION: Motion made by Vice-Chair Geronemus to approve. Chair Bachman seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: None.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

City Clerk Roussin noted that Jo Corso had joined the meeting via Zoom.

3. **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** None.
4. **CITIZEN COMMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:** None.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** July 14th, 2026

There were no changes to the minutes, and Chair Bachman asked for a motion to approve.

MOTION: Motion made by Vice-Chair Geronemus to approve. Chair Bachman seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: None.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

6. BUDGET UPDATE

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

Dave McKeehan provided the budget report, reviewed the remaining budget and allocations, and commented on the large amount of pending approvals and available Giving Tree funds. Dave McKeehan also recalled an estimated budget of \$38,000.00 for the upcoming fiscal year. Chair Bachman noted that the Geiger Trees had not been included in the current expenditures.

Chair Bachman noted that former Committee member Sandra Glassman had managed the Giving Tree and asked Jo Corso to take over that responsibility, which Jo Corso agreed to do. Chair Bachman also

noted that the Giving Tree wall appeared to have been removed during the ongoing construction in Marble Hall and asked for ideas and suggestions for future improvements. Jo Corso shared several ideas and agreed to follow up.

Chair Bachman proposed two expenditures from the Giving Tree Fund. She first discussed the Coconut Path Garden and proposed purchasing a picnic table, noting that the packet included a quote and that a plaque could recognize donations from residents. She then discussed the Sailfish Statue for the City, gave positive comments about the statue and Vice-Mayor Colonell's vision for a fountain, and proposed contributing money to the Sailfish fund. Chair Bachman confirmed that the statue was in the City's possession. Vice-Mayor Colonell said the base for the Sailfish statue was currently being constructed and described the design, including the intention to mimic the City's logo. He also commented on the current design of the base and statue, the proposed location, and the need to raise funds to move the project forward.

MOTION: Motion made by Chair Bachman to donate \$2,000.00 from the Giving Tree Fund to the fountain. Vice-Chair Geronemus seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Jo Corso suggested using personalized pavers around the fountain. Dave McKeehan supported the fountain and offered additional thoughts on possible design and costs. Vice-Mayor Colonell suggested reaching out to BrightView regarding the possibility of pro bono work. Dave McKeehan further commented on anticipated fountain costs and suggested considering a higher donation dedicated to the water feature.

AMENDED MOTION: Vice-Chair Geronemus amended the motion to donate \$5,000.00 from the Giving Tree Fund. Chair Bachman seconded the amendment.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: Chair Bachman asked that the donation include anticipated costs for water to be incorporated into the statue.

ON THE AMENDED MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

Vice-Mayor Colonell reiterated his earlier suggestion to contact BrightView about a possible donation or performing work for the City on the project. City Administrator Bartus confirmed that he would contact Public Works Department Head Guarino regarding possible options.

Chair Bachman asked for a motion to purchase the picnic table for the Coconut Path Garden.

MOTION: Motion made by Vice-Chair Geronemus to purchase a picnic table for the Coconut Path Garden for \$1,892.85. Chair Bachman seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Dave McKeehan commented on the high cost of the picnic table, including the shipping cost and the use of Giving Tree funds. Dave McKeehan asked whether the table could be picked up instead of shipped; it was confirmed that the table was in another state and too far away to pick up.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

7. GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING UPDATES

Chair Bachman commented on the need to reassign garden responsibilities and asked Janice Mueller and Nancy Helme to review the large garden by City Hall. Chair Bachman also assigned Janie Byland to the Parking Lot Garden and asked all Committee members to visit the Retention Pond once a month to observe any possible needs.

a. State of All Gardens

- 1. Kapok Garden and Orchid/Coconut Pathway:** Chair Bachman reported on behalf of Janie Byland and noted some Croton damage caused by iguanas, which has been addressed.

2. Tiki Garden by The Inn: Chair Bachman reported on behalf of Nancy Helme and stated that the garden looked good, with some mulching to be completed in the future.
3. Post Office Tiki: Chair Bachman reported that the garden looked fine.
4. Detention Pond and 7th Street Color Garden: Chair Bachman asked whether an Osprey nest was being built, which Dave McKeehan could not confirm. Dave McKeehan reported that the Retention Pond was fulfilling its ecological purpose as a stop for birds and said the Public Works Department had added a large number of fiddler crabs to the pond. He believed more birds would be attracted to the pond in the future and said the pond was coming along well. Chair Bachman updated the Committee on the condition of the plants and grass, reported no rain puddles after the new pervious paver improvements, and said the new walkway had been installed and the area was waiting for grass.
5. Front and Boulder Garden, 1st Street Park: Vice-Chair Geronemus reported that the Muhly grass was coming back and that 1st Street Park looked good. Chair Bachman discussed suggestions for additional mounds and possible irrigation and provided further comments on the planned Geiger Tree plantings.
6. City Hall, Parking, Waterfront Garden, and Sunset Park: Chair Bachman reported that the Recreation Committee had a proposal for landscaping improvements by the Golf Course on its upcoming agenda and that some plants had been replanted around the Post Office trees. Chair Bachman reported that the hanging baskets on the Causeway looked nice and that the Petunias on the bridge were struggling. She noted that Public Works had installed drain holes in the planters to prevent the plants from standing in water.
7. Golf Course: Chair Bachman reported that the Golf Course looked good and that the Recreation Committee was taking care of the plantings by 8th Street.
8. **BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE IMPROVEMENT LIST:** Chair Bachman reported that she had provided updates to the improvement list and asked Committee members to provide input on future near-term and long-term improvements. She reviewed the current priorities on the list and noted that new items had been added, with proposals for consideration and approval included on the agenda.
9. **COMMITTEE MEMBER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/APPROVAL**
 - a. Discussion/Approval of Proposals for Landscaping Improvements at the Public Works Department Building

Chair Bachman discussed the proposed BrightView landscape improvements, reviewed the scope of work, and asked for a motion to approve.

MOTION: Motion made by Vice-Chair Geronemus to approve. Chair Bachman seconded the motion.
DISCUSSION: Dave McKeehan asked who would be responsible for irrigating the new plantings. Chair Bachman confirmed that Public Works would provide watering.
ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.
 - b. Discussion/Approval of a proposal by Blue Native for Landscaping Improvements for the Triangle Garden for \$14,975.00

Chair Bachman introduced the agenda item and asked for a motion to approve.

MOTION: Motion made by Vice-Chair Geronemus to approve.

DISCUSSION: Dave McKeehan discussed the price and scope and suggested adding additional shrubs to the project. Vice-Mayor Colonell commented on the proposal's original pricing, changes to the scope, and the need for Public Works to maintain access to the mangroves for trimming. Vice-Mayor Colonell also commented on erosion control and stated that Blue Native's proposal was reasonable.

MOTION: Dave McKeehan seconded the motion.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: Chair Bachman stated that it had been a good discussion and said the Committee would look for further improvements in the future.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

- c. Discussion/Approval of Quote #WQ 401446 by Belson Outdoors for the purchase of a Picnic Table for \$1,892.85. **see under 7a.
- d. Discussion/Approval of a Proposal by Brightview for \$5,002.71 for Tree Installations at the Golf Course

Chair Bachman introduced the agenda item and asked for a motion to approve the installation of five Royal Poinciana trees by the Golf Course, to be planted along 8th Street by the Park and intermixed with the existing palm trees.

MOTION: Motion made by Vice-Chair Geronemus to accept the proposal from BrightView for tree installation by the Golf Course. Dave McKeehan seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Chair Bachman reported that Daryl Rice had suggested the idea. Dave McKeehan noted that the trees would not bloom year-round but would look excellent when in bloom.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

- e. Discussion/Approval for a Proposal by Brightview for Landscape Improvements by a Storm Drain
**Agenda Addition

Chair Bachman introduced the agenda item and explained the location, scope, and suggested improvements from BrightView, noting that Public Works Department Head Guarino supported the proposal.

MOTION: Motion made by Dave McKeehan to support Brightview's proposal for Storm Drain Improvements.

DISCUSSION: Chair Bachman asked Vice-Mayor Colonell for comment. Vice-Mayor Colonell supported the improvements and commented on trash accumulation at the location, not being a fan of rocks. The committee discussed alternatives to rock, ruling out mulch as a viable option.

MOTION: Chair Bachman seconded the motion.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: Vice-Mayor Colonell shared further thoughts on the use of rocks and supported going forward with the project. Chair Bachman voiced support of going forward with the project.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

Chair Bachman reported Public Works Department Head Guarino having requested the purchase of mulch.

MOTION: Motion made by Chair Bachman to purchase \$260.00 worth of mulch for the Public Works Department. Vice-Chair Geronemus seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: Vice-Mayor Colonell asked about the intention to plant under the Royal Poincianas and what to plant beneath. Chair Bachman said Public Works Department Head Guarino suggested mulching. Dave McKeegan agreed on the need for mulch.

ON THE MOTION: Rollcall vote. Unanimous approval.

10. DISCUSSION/APPROVAL FOR UPCOMING BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS: To start back in October.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: Dave McKeegan discussed today's approvals and estimated the total cost of \$26,400.00 from the general budget and \$7,000.00 from the Giving Tree for the Committee's awareness. Chair Bachman commented that the Committee's spending the money and doing good things for the city will hopefully encourage more donations to the city by residents.

12. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 8th, 2026, 10:00 AM – in Person & via Zoom at The Inn

13. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 11:17 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Silvia Roussin

City Clerk

ADOPTED: September 8, 2026

Silvia Roussin

City Clerk